



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

JULY 2026



Brunch Between Services

On Sunday July 5th, we will have brunch between services. Early service people can stay after worship and late service people can arrive a little early so we can all enjoy this time of fellowship and food! We will have people in the kitchen if your food items need heated. There will be no Sunday School that day as we will gather in the Fellowship Hall at 9:45am. A sign up sheet is posted on the bulletin board.

ROME VBS! Decorating Nights

Hello! We are working to turn CCUMC into Rome for VBS July 19-23, 2026. In order to do this, we are going to have several decorating nights. Everything needed will be supplied, and there will be tasks for every ability of crafter! Decorating nights will be Tuesdays from 5-7pm on July 7th and 14th. We are also in need of volunteers to help run the different stations. Everything is scripted for you and gives instructions. If you have any questions, please call Michelle at 570-204-4130. Your help and prayers are greatly appreciated!



Vacation Bible School
July 19-23
6:00-8:00pm

Join us in Rome! You'll explore the caves of the Underground Church, meet the Apostle Paul, create cool Bible-times projects, experience thrilling real-life dramas, play high-energy games, sample tasty Mediterranean snacks, and hear unforgettable music. Plus, you'll meet lots of new friends! Registration is open on our website: ccumchurchselinsgrove.org. Just click on the Rome logo (like you see here), fill out the registration information and click submit. Don't miss out on all the fun this year at Vacation Bible School!



Christmas in July is to help children in our congregation with back-to-school clothing and other items. Please take a star from the tree in the narthex and purchase a Wal-Mart gift card in the amount listed and return both to the church office by July 26th. Thank you in advance for your purchase.

~United Women in Faith

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Web page: ccumchurchselinsgrove.org



Fireworks and Vacation Bible School

“For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.” ~ Galatians 5:1

This month conjures up special memories of family picnics, church camp, and of course fireworks in celebration of Independence Day!

As a kid, I was captivated by the Revolutionary War and the heroes who fought for our freedom. Many of our family trips were to historic places of the revolution like Boston, Fort Ticonderoga, Mt. Vernon, Monticello, Williamsburg, and Philadelphia where people like Paul Revere, George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, and Benjamin Franklin once walked. And, of course, the Bicentennial of 1976 was an amazing time of celebrating our nation’s 200th birthday.

Now, as we celebrate our Semiquincentennial this Fourth of July, we have much for which to give God thanks: for the freedoms we enjoy and those who ensured them; for the beauty and natural resources of our country; and for our nation’s ongoing desire “to form a more perfect union” made evident in the Constitution, the Bill of Rights and the idealism of the Declaration of Independence.

As we give thanks we must also acknowledge that our nation is not and has never been perfect. For example, the incredible words from the Declaration of Independence - “We hold these Truths to be self-evident, that all Men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness” - did not apply to Black slaves or Native Americans in 1776. I love my country, but we are not immune to the temptations of abusing power and oppressing others even today.

There is one source of freedom who is perfect. Jesus Christ has set us truly free beyond any works of humanity. In him we are set free from the law of sin and death into the freedom of living by faith in Christ expressed through loving God and loving our neighbor as ourselves. This is the freedom we will celebrate not only on July 5th, but also as we share the love of Christ during this year’s VBS!

If you are available July 19-23 from 6pm-8pm, come out and help. It’s in loving others that we truly experience what Christ’s love set us free for, and serving at VBS is a great opportunity to do it!

~Pastor Eric

July at Christ Community



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



August Worship Services

During the month of August, EVERY SUNDAY will be a Combined Worship Service at 10:00am. Sunday School will take place at 9:00am. Mark your calendars now!

Yard Sale Donations Needed



We are collecting donations for our church's annual yard sale. Please make sure your items are clean and in good condition. If you have furniture or large items, please call first to see if we will accept and if we have help to carry the item into the church. **The 2 drop off days for the month of July are Monday, July 6th, from 10am-12Noon & Monday, July 20th, from 4-6pm** at the former preschool entrance. A sign up sheet is posted on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall.

Please consider helping to sort, size and organize donations. Thank You!

MEETINGS

July

1st - Scholarship Committee, 6:00pm
2nd - Pastor's Discretionary Fund
9th - Trustees, 6:00pm



EVENTS

July

5th - Holy Communion; Donations to Christ's Prayer Pantry; Brunch between services; Prayer Gathering @ Hope UMC, Port Trevorton, 6:30pm
6th - Yard Sale Donation Drop Off, 10am-Noon
7th & 14th - Making Decorations for VBS, 5-7pm
11th - Youth Picnic @ Kidsgrove, 1:00-5:00pm
18th - Free Food Drive Thru, 10:00am
19th-23rd - Vacation Bible School, 6:00-8:00pm
20th - Yard Sale Donation Drop Off, 4-6pm
22nd - Sojourners Group @ Haven Ministry, (Leave church parking lot at 8:30am with Fellowship Lunch at OIP in Sunbury following volunteer experience)
29th - Youth @ Knoebels, 4:00-10:00pm



Christ's Prayer Pantry

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

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.



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

July Birthdays



- 04 Veronica John
- 08 Toby Wolfe
- 11 Dwight Walter
- 14 Christopher Aumiller
- 15 Tracy Hepner
- 16 Pam Wolfe
- 18 Aaron Garrison
- 19 Lee Ann White
- 21 Mark Reinard
- 30 Janice Castrignano
- 31 Melanie Garrison

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

July Anniversaries



- 02/1988 Pam & Steve Eister
- 02/1976 Mark & Brenda Reinard
- 03/1983 Jamie & Corey Waters
- 30/1977 Rich & Brenda Pehowic



Paul Aungst, Box 42, Hummels Wharf, PA 17831



Hello Church Family!

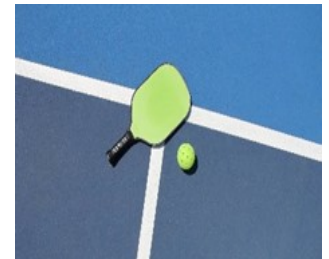
The COOL Family Ministry has news and information we would like to share. In May, we had a summer kickoff picnic at the pavilion. There is something about gathering around food. The conversations just seem to flow and hit different. They are more intentional and heartfelt. I feel like its because we aren't in such a rush to leave the building to get to our next destination. We have time to sit and just be and actually listen to what others are going through in their lives. Please try to make our next gathering so you, too, can feel the love and kindness through rich conversation.

The COOL Family will be "in charge" of the August 30th "after service" meal. You can expect us to be serving up some of our famous breakfast sandwiches. If you haven't ever purchased our sandwiches, now is your time to try them with all the goodies other church members will be signing up to bring that day. Our breakfast sandwich sales are on hold for the summer months, but you can look for us to be selling them, once again, in-between services September 20th. Profits go directly towards outreach our ministry is involved with. Many thanks for those who have prayed or contributed to our ministry in ANY WAY! A few in our group will be helping the CCUMC kids club in any way we are able, during VBS and at the Selinsgrove Street Fair with the CCUMC youth group Lemonade Stand.

After summer starts to fade and life gets back to routine, look for a FAMILY GAME NIGHT to happen. More info to come closer to the date. We pray you have a summer full of meaning and you stay safe.

Love and Blessings from your Brothers and Sisters in Christ,
~COOL Family

In April, a sign up sheet was posted in the Fellowship Hall for anyone interested in learning and playing pickleball at the church. Twenty-two members signed up!! From April through mid-June, Marty and Sabrina Sickle led at least twenty, one-hour, instructional sessions. Everyone who participated enjoyed the fellowship, experience, and moderate exercise. A player contact list is posted on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall -feel free to contact anyone on the list if you would like to play or learn more. To use the indoor court at the church, please contact the church office to check Fellowship Hall availability. Outdoor courts are also available at Monroe Township Baseball Park on Ballfield Drive in Selinsgrove. Additional training sessions will be offered this Fall upon interest.





CCUMC at Sea!

Join us as we set sail on a 5-night adventure to Bermuda aboard Royal Caribbean's Independence of the Seas, **June 5-10, 2027**. Soak up the sun, explore the vibrant island of Bermuda, and enjoy the company of fellow travelers from CCUMC. For information and questions, contact Jenna Heim at Envoyage Travel.

CCUMC SOJOURNERS will be volunteering at Haven Ministries in Sunbury on Wednesday, July 22nd, from 9:00am to Noon. We will most likely be cleaning rooms, maintenance work, and organizing their Food Pantry. We will carpool from the church parking lot at 8:30am. We will enjoy a Fellowship Lunch at OIP in Sunbury following our volunteer experience. Please consider helping by being the hands and feet of Christ to those in need by signing up in the Fellowship Hall. Our next visit to Mission Central in Mechanicsburg is Wednesday, September 30th.

The Impact of CCUMC

In the Autumn of 2025, we had collected some personal statements through a bulletin questionnaire concerning the impact of Christ Community United Methodist Church on our personal lives, our families' lives, the local community, and on the world beyond. We also, from time to time, receive comments from people who have somehow interacted with CCUMC and its outreach as a mission station. Here is yet another installment gleaned from those responses:

Personal life: I like to participate in a number of things at the church, like Cluster prayer, United Women of Faith, the soup giveaway, and prayer group. And although I don't sing or play an instrument, I really enjoy the music. It helps me "get in the zone," especially if I pay attention to the lyrics.

Family life: My grandchildren loved AWANA and waited for it each Wednesday. We are eager to see what this coming year's transformation into its replacement program will be like. We're sure it will offer the same caring leadership, excitement, and lasting value.

Community life: (*This one is both community and personal.*) I'm impressed with the outreach of our food distribution program, though I'm saddened that there remains so much need in our area. But it gives me a good feeling when I can donate to the shopping carts that help meet the needs of the program and the people it serves. We're lucky to have such loyal volunteers! The same is true of the winter yard sale. Many people find items they couldn't otherwise afford. But I'm helped because it gives me an opportunity to simplify my home by redistributing decent items that have accumulated over the years. I already have stuff set aside for the next donation time.

The world: I like the chance to fill a shoe box or two for Operation Christmas Child. I've seen videos of the kids opening the boxes — the joy on their faces for receiving such simple things makes me feel good. The tricky part is getting things to fit in the box, and including only items that are allowed. I collect and set aside little gifts throughout the year.

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. These could be examples of "God moments" or meaningful anecdotes. 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. Just drop a note to Care Team at CCUMC, 3939 Park Road, Selinsgrove PA 17879, or send an email to CCUMC@ptd.net and put "Impact" in the subject line. Thank you.

"God is impacting lives through this mission station.
Your generous support of the General Fund is greatly appreciated. Thank you!"



Christ Community
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

In August

9:00a.m. - Sunday School
10:00a.m. - Worship

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

CCUMC Kid's Club

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.

July 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 6pm Scholarship Meeting	2 10:30am Pastor's Discretionary Fund Meeting	3	4 <i>Independence Day</i>
5 8:30am Worship 9:45am Brunch 11:00am Worship 6:30pm Prayer Gathering @ Hope UMC, Port Trevorton	6 10am-12Noon Yard Sale Donation Drop Off	7 9am Prayer Time 5-7pm Making Decorations for VBS	8	9 6pm Trustee Meeting	10	11 1-5pm Youth Picnic @ Kidsgrove Park
12 8:30am Worship 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship	13	14 9am Prayer Time 5-7pm Making Decorations for VBS	15	16	17	18 10am Free Food Drive Thru
19 <i>Vacation Bible School</i> 8:30am Worship 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship 6-8pm VBS	20 <i>Vacation Bible School</i> 4-6pm Yard Sale Donation Drop Off 6-8pm VBS	21 <i>Vacation Bible School</i> 9am Prayer Time 6-8pm VBS	22 <i>Vacation Bible School</i> 8:30am Volunteer at Haven Ministries 6-8pm VBS	23 <i>Vacation Bible School</i> 6-8pm VBS	24	25
26 8:30am Worship 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship	27	28 9am Prayer Time	29 4-10pm Youth-Knoebels	30	31	