

Christ Calls

The Monthly Newsletter of Memorial Lutheran Church
September 2025

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Dates To Remember

September 7	God's Work. Our Hands. Quiet Service - 8:00 am Sunday School - 9:00 am New Member Class - 9:00 am Worship/Live Stream Service - 10:00 am
September 8	Church Council Meeting - 6:30 pm
September 14	Worship Service - 9:00 am Church Picnic - 12:00 pm
September 17	Women of the ELCA - 12:00 pm
September 20	Katie's Place Better Together Event - 9:00 am
September 21	Quiet Service - 8:00 am Sunday School - 9:00 am Worship/Live Stream Service - 10:00 am
September 28	Quiet Service - 8:00 am Sunday School - 9:00 am Worship/Live Stream Service - 10:00 am

COME, LET'S
SING FOR JOY
TO THE

LORD,

LET'S SHOUT
JOYFULLY TO
THE

ROCK
OF OUR
SALVATION.

PSALM 95:1, NASB

Memorial Lutheran Church
34 E. Orange Street
Shippensburg PA 17257



PASTOR
Rev. Godfred Effisah



PARISH COORDINATOR
Amy Piper
office@memluth.org



BELL CHOIR DIRECTOR
SENIOR CHOIR DIRECTOR
Kathy Kerr



ORGANIST
Nancy Fogelsanger

717-532-4614
www.memluth.org
office@memluth.org

2025 CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

ELDERS

Linda Basler
Mary Cox
Mary Beth Fishel

TRUSTEES

Matthew Creek
Bill Drake
Galen Piper
Bob Snyder – Treasurer

DEACONS

Demaree Deardorff
Linda Eves
Beth Houser
Tasha Koenig
Ron Luffy
Jane Motter
Jan Nichols
Karin Vargo
Susan Wenger

September



FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Siblings in Christ,

"I can do all things through him who strengthens me." Philipians 4:13

This biblical verse is one of my favorites, and you may have seen it in my email signature. It inspires, encourages, and challenges me in all situations. It is about enduring whatever situation might come my way. Good or bad times, knowing that I am never alone because Christ is with me to strengthen me, irrespective of my situation. It is this truth that I want to share with you and your family as we come to the close of another Summer. For many of us, Summer seems to have gone by incredibly fast, signaling that another busy school and football season is back again with us. However, for many who were busy during the Summer and could not find time for God or participate actively in the life of our faith community, it's time to come back.

Friends, September is a time for people, especially those who have been busy throughout the Summer and those who are not actively involved in faith stuff, to look to the church once again for inspiration, active involvement, and fellowship. This is a time for all of us to look forward to how we will serve as Christian disciples and stewards of the gospel once the Fall routine kicks in. How have you prepared yourself during this Summer to serve as a good steward starting this September? Have you planned on how you can arrange your schedule to offer God more of your time in prayer, worship, and study? Have you considered how your budget might be rearranged to share more of the treasure in your care?

Maybe our Lord is inviting you to visit or reach out to our shut-ins, or to volunteer here at the church, join one of our ministries, or sing in the choir. PLEASE GET INVOLVED ONE WAY OR THE OTHER. You are a disciple of Jesus Christ. It is therefore essential for you to participate actively in worship and the life of our church community. I understand that at times, your schedule and perhaps your health make it difficult for you to attend church or participate in the life of our Memorial. That is why I continue to pray for you and remind you that you can do all things through Christ, who strengthens you.

May the Lord, who strengthens us, help us to focus on growing our lives as disciples by re-engaging with our faith family through renewed participation in our ministries and worship as Summer comes to an end.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Godfred, Pastor.



COUNCIL NEWS

Church Council met Monday, August 11, 2025.

The meeting was called to order and Concerns and Thanksgivings were shared. Concern for Pastor Seibold on the death of his wife, Ellie. Thanksgivings for a successful Shippensburg Fair Food Stand, and to John Drake for fixing the broken church office file drawer. Thanksgivings and appreciation to all those who helped with VBS. A meeting to review and begin planning for next year is to be scheduled. Thanks to the Memorial Outreach Ministry for supplying highlighter markers, and all those who helped attach the MLC information cards to the markers, for Chamber of Commerce welcome bags to SU students. Thanksgivings to Kathy Kerr and Nancy Fogelsanger for the beautiful duet on Sunday and their continued musical gifts to the church. And a reminder was shared for everyone to be welcoming our visitors to Memorial each week.

Devotions were led by Pastor Godfred with scripture from 1 Kings 19:11-14. Pastor Godfred asked the question "What are we doing here?" in relation to the scripture text. Pastor Godfred led the opening prayer.

Pastor Godfred reported that the Blessing of Students, educational professionals, and supplies will be on Sunday, August 17th. Pastor noted that Synod will give money for Campus Ministry. New members' class will begin Sunday, September 7th. Revision of the Wedding Policy is in the works; Funeral Policy should be reviewed as well.

Jane Motter was selected to fulfill the vacancy of the position of Deacon through December 2025. At the annual meeting in November, four deacons will be elected to the 2026 Church Council. Whoever gets the 4th highest number of votes will serve the final year of this position of Deacon's term. Mary asked that the Safety and Security Task Force contact Fire Chief Randy O'Donnell and look in to the maximum capacity of Fellowship Hall, the sanctuary, and the CAR. Signs should be posted stating this information.

Saturday, October 18th Council will hold a working retreat beginning at 9:00 am to complete the edits and additions to the Ministries and Organizations of Memorial Lutheran Church Handbook. The homework for each Council representative is to attend their ministry committees' meeting(s), working with those committee members to edit their committee's page(s). The updated page(s) are to be brought to the retreat. To date, only five committees have submitted their pages.

Worship & Music Ministry discussed the issue of members not realizing until Sunday mornings that they are scheduled as a worship helper continues. There are multiple ways that this information is shared: the monthly volunteer schedule is included in the newsletter - which is emailed, posted on our Memorial's Facebook page, copies available for members to pick up at church, and mailed to homes of those who have requested delivery by post; the Volunteer schedule is also posted on Amy's office door, and is included in each Sunday's bulletin Weekly Call. We ask that if you have volunteered to serve as a worship helper, please make note of the dates you are scheduled. If you have a conflict with a date, let Amy know and contact someone else to cover for your Sunday.

Church Property reported that Wadel's will be contacted regarding the AC not working in Fellowship Hall. Dan Mast will be contacted to repair several lights that are not working. (The lights in the hallway outside of

Fellowship Hall/preschool room and mezzanine level elevator door opening ceiling lights.) Dan will also be consulted on changing all the lights in the Archives room to LED light fixtures. Other matters following up on are the pruning of the bushes by the retaining wall steps; contacting different contractors regarding options/suggestions for the parking lot retaining wall. The Treasure reported that the increase in the organ fund is due to the excess in the organ relocation funding by donors. The moneys were distributed according to donor wishes as follows: \$5,000 to Archives and the rest to organ fund.

The setting up and moving in to the new Archives Room is progressing. Supplies are on order and shelving has been delivered. (Special thanks and appreciation to Sue Lyons and her grandchildren for getting all the shelving items to the room. ☺) Antonio Diaz will be compensated for assembling the new shelving units. Matthew Creek will be in touch with the scouts' leaders to see if they can help with the moving of items up to the new Archives Room. A date will be made known when all is ready for the move.

The Women of the ELCA convention is Saturday, August 16th in Middletown. The Fair Stand reported a profit of \$6,000 from this year's event. The money was given to the church to be used where needed. Camp Nawakwa is beginning a major renovating and replacing campaign - stay tuned for further information. SPO has gotten 8 new carts to assist with their food distribution and organization.

Reminders to mark your calendars for the upcoming events were noted for the Good of the Order:

Sunday, September 14th - One Worship Service at 9:00 am at the church; Church Picnic at 12:00 noon

Shippensburg Township Park, Britton Road

Saturday, September 20 - Katie's Place Better Together Festival

Sunday, October 12 – Handbell Choirs Concert 4:00 pm

Sunday, December 14 - Towne Singers Concert 4:00 pm

Saturday, May 2, 2026 – 2nd Edition Concert from the National Christian Choir

With no further business to be brought to the table, the meeting was adjourned with the praying of the Lord's Prayer. The next meeting of the Church Council will be Monday, September 8, 2025.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Cox

Congregation President



Come one and all to our Church Picnic on Sunday, September 14th at the Shippensburg Township Park on Britton Road! We will have only one worship service that day at 9:00 a.m. - picnic lunch beginning at 12:00 noon. The Fellowship Ministry will provide pulled pork, macaroni & cheese, and beverages. Everyone is asked to bring a dish to share, hot or cold, your own place settings, and something suitable for our prize table. (Bring along a lawn chair if want, too.) This is always a fun day of fellowship with our church family and celebrating the love of Christ with one another, so please come and join us for food, games, fun & fellowship! Hope 2 C U there!



Help with Games would be appreciated! We are looking for someone to plan & lead games at the church picnic. Fellowship will supply peanuts & candy for a scramble. Contact Jean Robinson or leave your name with the church office. Thank you!



KEEP IN PRAYER

Gordon Chen
Jerry Cramer
Rachel Diaz Debias
Brad Drake
John Drake Family
David Eves
Nancy Fogelsanger
Cricket Force

Betsy Haller
Pamela Hamilton
Gary Hawbaker
Elizabeth Howland
Alberto Llanes
Pat Maun
Renee Meyer
Mary Mensah

Mindy
Earl Nollenberger
Ed Pearson
Chris Pivnickny
Dylan Ramsey
Sarah
Francine Ritter
Bill Robinson

Jill Rotz
Ron Shuey
Lynn Slowey
Tony Stoops
Wayne Widney
Sue Williams
TEACHERS AND STUDENTS



Please pray for Pastor Seibold in the death of his wife, Eleanor "Ellie", on June 16, 2025. The address to send Pastor Seibold a card is: 2605 Marina Bay Drive, Apt. 2203, League City, TX 77573

Memorial's Prayer Chain - To have your prayer request placed on the prayer chain, please contact Jean Goldthorpe (717-532-9482), or you may give your request to the church office.

FINANCES



JULY 2025				
FUND	INCOME	EXPENSES	DIFFERENCE	YTD
CURRENT	\$42,987	\$29,426	\$13,561	\$19,866
	Income	Paid		Needed to be paid
BENEVOLENCE	\$2,609	\$6,710	(\$4,101)	\$2,858

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1 Jason White
3 Toryn Wilson
6 Douglas Nichols
7 Marissa Sandoe
9 Robert Dewey
10 Lauren Brundzo
10 Lillian Creek
13 Jonathan Perdew

15 Isabella Kyle
16 Mary Cox
16 Devin Whistler
19 Godfred Effisah
20 Tasha Koenig
21 Christopher Young
21 Nicholas Fleming
21 Christina Sweat

22 Karly Hamman
23 Morgan Creek
24 Shelia Barklow
25 Jo Anne Coy
26 Olivia Booz
29 Nicholas Alspaugh



GOD'S WORK. OUR HANDS.

God's work. Our hands.



September 7, 2025

Hound Packs Supplies Ingathering September 7, 2025



Everyday our hands should be doing God's work. A day to celebrate God's Work, Our Hands is Sunday, September 7. There will be a table to display each member's contribution to the Hound Packs Program that day. Bags of the weekend foods will begin to be filled the first week of September for children enrolled in the program. Our Hands provide cereal bowl packs, granola/fruit bars and individual oatmeal packs. Blessings as you shop for your Ingathering contributions. "Each one, bring one".

AD 2025 YEAR OF PRAYER

"Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples." – Luke 11:1

Throughout the year, we have been talking about prayer and the importance of praying together, not just as a congregation, but as individual disciples of Jesus Christ. As Summer comes to an end and church activities resume, I would like to draw your attention to the fact that Christian prayer is an important activity in our Christian life. In fact, it is that which holds our relationship with God. Christian prayer may be spontaneous or scripted.

Prayer is a spiritual communication and a two-way relationship with God involving confession, thanksgiving, supplication, and adoration. Prayer can be expressed in both oral and mental form, in public or private settings, and even in songs, such as Psalms. Through prayer, we attune to God's will, cultivate a relationship, and express our needs and desires to a listening God who may respond according to His will and plans for us. Let us cultivate and nurture our prayer lives as disciples of Jesus Christ because prayer works.



The Impact of Prayer

Personal Peace: Christ is our peace, and there is a great sense of comfort and peace that comes with prayer. A great sense of feeling his presence, being heard by a loving and abiding God – Philippians 4:6-7.

Prayer changes us: As we seek the Lord and regularly spend time in His Word and with Him, we are transformed. His will supersede our desires, and we are able to say with Jesus, "Thy will be done," as our thoughts align more closely with His. As our understanding of his character deepens through our prayerful relationship, we learn how to pray in accordance with His will.

Prayer strengthens our community: When prayers take place within a community, such as a church or family, it strengthens and renews the bond among the members, regardless of the challenges they face. As the adage goes, "a family that prays together stays together."

PRAYER TRIVIA

1. Who did Jesus pray for that his faith failed not? a) Peter b) James c) John d) Judas
2. Whose prayer resulted in his being thrown into a den of lions? a) David b) Daniel c) Darius d) Dagon
3. Who was Jesus talking to when he taught the Lord's prayer? a) Pharisees b) Disciples c) Multitudes d) John and Peter only
4. Who told Peter to watch and pray that he would not enter into temptation? a) An angel b) John c) Jesus d) James
5. Which king was saved from death by Abraham's prayer? a) Abimelech b) Ahab c) Ahaziah d) Ahasuerus

6. Who prayed for the fiery serpents to be taken away from Israel? a) Abraham b) Aaron c) Moses d) Joshua
7. At which battle were the Israelites defeated because Joshua didn't pray first? a) Jericho b) Gibeon c) Heshbon d) Ai
8. Who prayed, "I pray thee, open his eyes that he may see?" a) Jesus b) Elisha c) Elijah d) Ananias
9. Where did the hypocrites love to pray? a) Standing in synagogues b) On rooftops c) In the market-place d) On the temple steps
10. Who prayed for a child and lent him to the Lord? a) Sarah b) Mary c) Elisabeth d) Hannah

Memorial Lutheran Women of the ELCA

Wednesday, September 17 ~ Noon

Fellowship Hall

Hostess: Linda Eves



Bring your lunch and drink. Dessert will be provided.

Bible Study: Susan Lyons

Bring your Bible and *Gather* magazine, if you have it.

The monthly outreach for October will be Lutheran Disaster Response. We will also be planning our outreach ministry to Lutheran World Relief.

Women of the ELCA is open to all women, regardless of church affiliation. We welcome all women to join us for fellowship and Bible study.

Please RVSP to Susan Lyons (717-816-6533 or maryslyons@yahoo.com), if you plan to attend.



THANKS TO EVERYONE who helped make this year's YEE HAW Vacation Bible School a success! "God Gives Good Gifts!"



MEMBERSHIP CLASSES

There will be a **New Member Class** starting **Sunday, September 7th at 9:00 am**. Anyone interested in becoming a church member or have questions about membership is encouraged to attend.

Children and Youth Group will not meet in September.
All children and youth are encouraged to join the fun at the church picnic on September 14th.



More information on these activities can be found at www.lutherancamping.org

Adult Book Retreat at Nawakwa
"Somehow: Thoughts on Love"
September 9-11, 2025

Capture the Flag Spectacular
Kirchenwald
October 5, 3-5:30 pm

October Harvest Festival
Wittel Farm
October 18, 10 am - 2 pm

Fall Foliage Day at Nawakwa
October 19 - Evening Meal Provided
1:00 - 6:00 pm

Annual Quilt Auction
Nawakwa
November 2 at 2:00 pm

Women's Craft Retreat
Nawakwa
November 7-9, Fee \$185

Children's Christmas Program - We are planning to have a nativity program with the children on Sunday, December 21st during the 10:00 am worship service. We need to know if parents and children are interested in participating. Eight or more children are needed to hold the nativity program. Please contact Amy Piper, Parish Coordinator, in the church office at 717-532-4614 or office@memluth.org if you would like your child to participate. Please contact Hope Alspaugh or Pastor Godfred with questions.



ARCHIVES

Our new Archives Room is totally renovated - temperature controlled, painted, floor shined and new carpeting.



We are now in the second phase of ordering equipment, furniture and supplies.

The third phase will happen in September, the big move to the second floor. We will then place all the documents in their proper place. We hope to have an Open House sometime after that for all to enjoy.

**Bell Choir and Senior Choir Practices will resume on
Wednesday, September 3rd.**

Bell Choir practices at 5:45 pm.

Senior Choir practices at 7:00 pm.

**More bell ringers and Senior Choir members
are always welcomed. Contact Kathy Kerr for
more information or to join.**



**Thanks to all who helped with the
Corn Festival water handout
and parking lot fundraiser!**

**The Finance Ministry is beginning to assemble
the 2026 Spending Plan for Memorial. If you or
a committee on which you serve anticipates
congregational funding in 2026, please submit
your needs AS SOON AS POSSIBLE in writing.
Thank You!**

2026 Spending Plan



OUTREACH



1,100 highlighters attached to a Memorial Lutheran Church information card were provided by the Outreach Ministry for the incoming Freshmen students at Shippensburg University through a partnership program with the Shippensburg Chamber of Commerce.



Memorial Members, we are committed to the Hound Packs Program to provide cereal bowl packs, granola/fruit bars and individual oatmeal packs. Currently the program is filling 200 bags every Wednesday. When you are shopping, think HOUND PACKS.

SHIPPENSBURG PRODUCE and OUTREACH

SPO Mission Statement:

Called by the grace of God to love one another, we reach out to those in need with food and/or services.

We are excited to announce that our new full-time Executive Director will begin September 1. When we received a grant to fund the position from the Partnership for Better Health, we posted the new position and received 52 applications. After an intensive review and series of interviews, our hiring team selected Jennifer Crostley as our new director. Coming to us with 20 years of experience in non-profit positions including program director, Jennifer has the vision and skills to take SPO into the next phase of our strategic planning as we continue to grow and look to SPO 2030.

How SPO loves the abundance of the growing season!

The gleanings season is in full swing. SPO is receiving watermelons, cantaloupes, corn and peppers from our local gleaner and growers. Local gardeners have donated their excess produce. Otterbein United Methodist Church delivered 400 half-dozen ears of corn that they have grown, harvested, and bagged for us. If you or someone you know has extra vegetables or fruit, we invite you to drop them off at SPO any Tuesday before noon to be distributed later in the day. We are so blessed to be able to share this abundance with our neighbors.



We are grateful to our local grocery stores (Walmart, Giant, Weis, Aldi's) for their weekly food donations. With the closing of Circle of Love, SPO has added the Newville Weis store to our store donation pickups every Monday. While looking forward to this additional partnership, we are also in need of drivers to support this food recovery effort. If you, or someone you know is available, please reach out to us.

Come join us on Sat., September 20 from 9 am to Noon, for the annual Better Together event which includes multiple local agencies, Rita's, free hot dogs, a petting zoo, music, and fun. It will be held right here in our parking lot. ➡

The Faerie Festival fundraiser for SPO will be held September 27 at Greene Township Park in Scotland. Come join us for our third annual event! Free admission, free parking, free activities! Shop from unique arts and craft vendors and grab a delicious lunch from our food trucks! Costume contests, raffle baskets and more! Plus this year, our new event, join us for a tea party with the faeries and the Carlisle Ice Queen Court!

Planning has also begun for our annual Thanksgiving distribution. It hardly seems possible to be thinking about the holidays, but big events take a lot of planning. Come join us!

GOOD & FAITHFUL SERVANTS

Please keep our homebound in your prayers.



Evelyn Fuller
630 Brenton St
Shippensburg, PA 17257

Doug & Pat Maun
211 S. Washington Street
Shippensburg, PA 17257

Dorothy Railing
117 Cleversburg Road
Shippensburg, PA 17257

Karen Larson
Celebration Villa of Shippensburg
129 Walnut Bottom Road
Shippensburg, PA 17257

Jeanne Naugle
442 Walnut Bottom Road, F2
Carlisle, PA 17013

Trina Ruth
509 Westover Road
Shippensburg, PA 17257

FREE **5th Annual Better Together Festival**

Featuring LOCAL AGENCIES AND RESOURCES

FREE **Saturday September 20th 2025**
9 A.M. until 12 P.M.

Event will take place in Katie's Place parking lot.
130 S Penn Street Shippensburg
Parking @ the Messiah Methodist Church

FREE **Petting Zoo**

FREE **Live Entertainment**

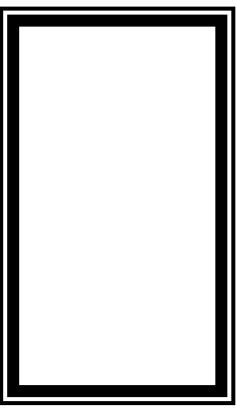


Whatever task you must do, work as if your soul depends on it, as for the Lord and not for humans.
Colossians 3:23

MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
34 E ORANGE ST
SHIPPENSBURG PA 17257-1993

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL



Welcoming all.

Reaching out in love.

Growing together in Christ.

Worshipping and serving in Jesus' name.