

Christ Calls

The Monthly Newsletter of Memorial Lutheran Church October 2025

In This Issue

Staff	page 2
Pastor's Corner	page 3
Church Council	page 4
First Sunday Luncheon	page 5
Prayer, Finances, Birthdays	page 6
God's Work. Our Hands.	page 7
Year of Prayer	page 8
Nurturing a Culture of Generosity	page 9
Handbell Concert	page 10
Homecoming	page 11
Children / Youth / Camp	page 12
Lutheran World Relief	page 13
SPO	page 14
Homebound	page 15

Dates To Remember

October 5	Quiet Service - 8:00 am Sunday School - 9:00 am Worship/Live Stream Service - 10:00 am First Sunday Luncheon - 11:30 am Children & Youth Group - 6:00 pm
October 12	Quiet Service - 8:00 am Sunday School - 9:00 am Worship/Live Stream Service - 10:00 am Handbell Concert & Reception - 4:00 pm Church Council Meeting - 6:30 pm
October 13	Women of the ELCA - 12:00 pm
October 15	Council Retreat - 9:00 am
October 18	Quiet Service - 8:00 am Sunday School - 9:00 am Worship/Live Stream Service - 10:00 am
October 19	Sunday School - 9:00 am Worship/Live Stream Service - 10:00 am Homecoming Reception - 11:30 am
October 26	

Be still
before the LORD
and wait patiently
for him.

Psalms 37:7



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



FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Siblings, in Christ,

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ to you and your family. With this apostolic greeting from the epistles of St. Paul, I would like to welcome you back to active congregational life after the summer season.

As we return to church in full swing, I pray that the Holy Spirit will enkindle our passion for ministry, discipleship, and evangelization. I want to remind you that we are stewards of the almighty God, entrusted with God's time, talent, and treasure, and blessed by God's creation for our good and the good of others. As children of God, we have a sacred responsibility to return these gifts with an increase through faithful service and generous offerings in support of God's mission in the world and the growth of His church.

Last year, we started to rethink FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP as a way of life for disciples here at Memorial, under the theme, Building a Culture of Generosity. Through this stewardship program, we invited all of us to prayerfully and intentionally reflect on our act of giving to the church and, where possible, increase our giving to Memorial. You responded amazingly to our Intent Cards, making our program a success.

Siblings in Christ, financial stewardship is a vital aspect of our faith and our lives as children of God. Through it, we learn to manage our resources wisely, honoring God in the process. Applying biblical principles to our finances involves intentional decision making with our entire family. For instance, practicing generosity by giving in support of God's mission through the church reflects our trust in God's provision.

Therefore, in our stewardship life for the coming year, starting this fall, we are invited again to **Nurture the Culture of Generosity** we started last year through prayerful discernment, emphasizing that our financial stewardship extends beyond monetary donations to Memorial. Instead, it is an act of kindness and compassion, making it a joyful, non-coercive experience, yet a sacred responsibility to God through God's church.

The goal of all these stewardship activities is to help us prayerfully cultivate and sustain a culture of generosity as an act of Christian discipleship here at Memorial. This begins by showing gratitude to God for his abundant gifts of time, talent, and treasure for our good, to help us meet the needs of our community and help build the kingdom of God.

May our 2026 call to financial stewardship be our joyful response to God's generosity to us and our way of life as disciples of Jesus, and not just a means to meet the financial needs of our church.

Remember, "I (we) can do all things through Christ who strengthens me (us)". Philippians 4:13.

Blessings, Godfred, Pastor.



COUNCIL NEWS

Church Council met Monday, September 8, 2025.

The meeting was called to order and Concerns and Thanksgivings were shared. Thanksgiving for Betsy Haller being home and doing well and thanksgiving for a letter received from Pastor Seibold who is doing well. Everyone Thankful for the beauty of nature that all can enjoy the 500 acres of beautiful sunflowers near New Franklin. Thankful for Beth Houser and Linda Basler for faithfully leading the Children and Adult Sunday School classes each week. Thanksgiving for the love, prayer and support for the John Drake family following their house fire. They will move into a furnished apartment on September 15th; continued prayers as insurance issues are still being settled.

Devotions were led by Bill Drake with the September 9, 2025, reading “Observe, practice, teach” from *The Word in Season* devotional. Scripture shared was 1 Timothy 4:12. Bill gave the opening prayer.

Pastor Godfred shared the following areas that we need to focus on:

- Focus on ministry engagement – How are our ministries doing? Promote your meetings and invite people to participate with you.

- Empowering Volunteerism – Include others in your ministry areas and allow them to learn and grow. Discussion of reducing number of Usher Teams so that each team has the number needed each week. People are listed to serve in different ministries but don’t attend.

- Children and Youth Ministry – Need to make this a priority in family and encourage attendance. Encourage young adults to be actively involved in life of Memorial.

We all share in the life and health of our Memorial family. Each of us can play a part in it.

The Treasurer’s Report noted the two large expenses in August: 2nd quarter insurance bill of \$5,907.25 and the upper parking lot tax of \$956.04. The process of appealing the real estate tax on the upper parking lot is underway and a hearing on this should be held in October. The month ended by almost breaking even thanks to the \$6,000 earned from the Fair Stand and an inherited IRA of \$25,000. No funds needed to be borrowed from other accounts to pay the bills. Any 2026 Budget requests from ministry committees must be submitted before Tuesday, September 16th.

Church Property gave an update on the ongoing jobs from their building and maintenance list. Parking lot lines were painted by Antonio Diaz last week. There is a need for additional handicapped parking spots and a van accessible parking spot in the parking lot. The suggestion to have in and out arrows painted on the parking lot was made. Randy O'Donnell was consulted regarding signs stating the capacity numbers for the sanctuary, Fellowship Hall and the CAR. He said there is a government agency that provides such figures for churches. The exploration of adding outside security cameras with TelePlus is being looked at. It may be possible that our cameras could be connected on the same circuit with Katie’s Place, which could be less expensive. Providing an AED for each floor of the church is being considered; funding for the purchase of these devices is being researched. We are waiting for a call back about AED training. TVs and other electronics need to be assessed and non-working items be discarded. Goodwill in Chambersburg will take these at no charge.

The Worship and Music Ministry shared the plans for God's Work, Our Hands Sunday, September 7th. The congregation will be asked to contribute items for the SCRC Hound Packs program for the students of the SASD. This is an ongoing outreach throughout the school year. The Senior and Bell Choirs will begin rehearsals starting Wednesday, September 3rd. The "clapping" for musical offerings during worship was discussed. Pastor Godfred said it is acceptable to show appreciation for the sharing of musical gifts through clapping.

Stewardship reported that a Pork & Sauerkraut dinner will be held Saturday, November 8th from 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm with a free will donation. Kathy Kerr is coordinating this dinner. Memorial's Outreach Ministry shared that additional gas cards are needed for the church office; a grant for the Hound Packs mission has been applied for. Outreach will represent MLC at the Better Together event sponsored by Katie's Place on Saturday, September 20th. The Nominating committee stated the need for names for the position of Elder for the 2026 Church Council. Archives reported that the ordering of needed supplies is nearly completed. Shipping costs have been very expensive for the items. There is a need for a computer network in the Archives Room; the service provider will be contacted for information regarding this.

Women of the ELCA will begin meeting again starting Wednesday, September 17th at noon. Those attending are to bring their own lunch; Linda Eves will be providing the dessert. All women of the church are invited to be a part of this gathering. SPO has hired a new director and is now fully computerized with their operations.

Thanksgiving distribution day is November 18th and SPO is planning to prepare 600 bags for distribution. Weis gift cards will be given out. Katie's Place Thrift Shop recorded 492 volunteer hours in August.

Reminder: Saturday, October 18th at 9:00 am, the council will meet for a working retreat to complete edits of the Memorial Committees Handbook. The homework for each Council representative is to attend their committee meeting and work with the committee members to edit their particular committee page(s) and bring those edits to the Saturday, October 18th workday. Only four committees have submitted their edits. Mary will email the other committees a reminder about completing this task.

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, October 13, 2025.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Cox
Congregation President



WHAT'S FOR LUNCH? – Sunday, October 5th - Fall brings cooler temperatures and the perfect time for friends and family to gather around the table for lunch! For this 1st Sunday of the Month lunch, we will be serving a Baked Potato Bar with all the *fixins* – *butter, sour cream, bacon bits, cheese, and chili* - tossed salad, fruit, and beverages. And as always, your delicious contributions for the dessert table are most welcomed and appreciated! We hope you will join us for this church family fellowship time. †

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



**FARMERS AND
HARVEST**

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



AUGUST 2025				
FUND	INCOME	EXPENSES	DIFFERENCE	YTD
CURRENT	\$26,357	\$27,182	(\$825)	\$19,041
	Income	Paid		Needed to be paid
BENEVOLENCE	\$3,026	\$205	\$2,821	\$5,679

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

- | | | | |
|----|------------------|----|----------------|
| 1 | Hayden McCole | 12 | Liam Creek |
| 2 | Wendy Buterbaugh | 16 | Alyvia Kyle |
| 3 | Eva Nye | 17 | Tyler Gossert |
| 6 | Robert Creek | 24 | Betsy Haller |
| 6 | Evan Kyle | 26 | Ronald Madison |
| 9 | Deborah Luffy | 27 | Edward Straley |
| 10 | Linda Basler | 30 | Cynthia Unger |



ENGAGING OUR MINISTRIES

MEMORIAL OCTOBER FOCUS: ENGAGING OUR MINISTRIES

Why is it important for us to engage with our ministries?

Through our ministries, we can actively participate in the mission and vision of Memorial Lutheran. Engaging our faith community through our ministries helps move our members from spectators to active participants in discipleship, service, and fellowship. It's built on strong relationships and involves opportunities for spiritual growth, community involvement, serving with gifts, and giving financially to support the church's work. Joining one or more ministries here at Memorial helps build a closer community and relationship, which in fact aids in fostering friendships within our larger church community. Remember that long social connections are linked to greater satisfaction among members and lead to long-term commitment among members. Are you a member of any ministry here at Memorial? Which of our ministries would you like to visit or join? Would you like to know how our ministries are doing? Then come visit during their meetings.



GOD'S WORK. OUR HANDS.

God's work. Our hands.



September 7, 2025

Thank you for the amazing support of the Hound Packs Ingathering!

Donations received were:

Cereal Bowls - 73

Oatmeal Packets - 234

Granola / Cereal Bars - 284

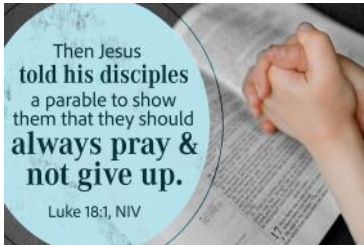
The Hound Packs Program is a Project for the School Year. We have committed to provide cereal bowl packs, granola/fruit bars and individual oatmeal packs. Currently there are 200 students registered in the program. When you are grocery shopping, think HOUND PACKS.



AD 2025 YEAR OF PRAYER

PRAYER AS A SOURCE OF STRENGTH

Prayer is a lifeline to God, a source of strength and comfort. As Jesus said, 'Ask and you will receive, seek and you will find, knock and the door will be opened to you.' (Matthew 7:7) What are you praying for today? What are you asking from God? And what door are you knocking on, hoping to be opened for you? Prayer is a way to engage with the Lord, strengthening the bond with Him and allowing access to His power and support.



It can be easy to feel close to God in our best moments – when things go well, when we have occasions to celebrate or feel connected to people around us who uplift us. In our challenging moments – when we are lonely, sick, overwhelmed, or scared – we may feel distant from God. God makes it clear to us that in these moments when we feel weak, or for whatever reason, God can be our source of strength, gently guiding us toward peace. In Psalm 50:15,

God tells us, “Call upon Me on the day of trouble; I will rescue you, and you will honor Me.” In our worst moments of weakness, God is ready to be by our side. His presence—and the strength He offers—may take a form you don’t expect. **DO NOT FORGET TO PRAY BECAUSE PRAYER WORKS. DO NOT BE ASHAMED TO PRAY. DO NOT STOP PRAYING BECAUSE YOU ARE NOT GETTING THE DESIRED RESPONSE FROM GOD.**

May the Lord continue to teach us to pray.

HAVE YOU MEDITATED ON THESE PRAYERS IN THE BIBLE BEFORE?

- ✝ Abraham’s Plea for Sodom – Genesis 18:16-33
- ✝ Hannah’s prayer of praise and vow for her son – 1 Samuel 2:1-11
- ✝ David’s prayer of repentance – Psalm 51
- ✝ Solomon’s dedication prayer for the Temple in Jerusalem – 2 Chronicles 6:12 - 42
- ✝ The Lord’s Prayer – Matthew 6:9-13
- ✝ Jesus’ high priestly prayer – John 17

NURTURING A CULTURE OF GENEROSITY

PLACE GOD FIRST IN YOUR BUDGETING AND SPENDING

The Ten Commandments stress God must be first in our lives. And Jesus said, “Seek first God’s kingdom and righteousness and all these things shall be yours as well.” (**Matthew 6:33**)

Many experience difficulty giving generously despite desiring to do so. This can occur when people attempt to give from what is left over at the end of the week or month rather than from first fruits, from all they have received.

The simple practice of placing God and The Church first in budgeting and spending has helped many experience joy in their giving. When you do this you are giving from all that a good and loving God has provided. You are practicing stewardship, understanding you are but a temporary trustee of what God has entrusted to you.



SEEK IN PRAYER GOD’S WILL FOR YOUR GIVING

What do we often do when the church asks for our support?

People will consult their spouse, consider their budget and bills, income and tax situation, investments and accountant, etc., and then determine what they can afford or spare. What is leftover.

As Christians we are also called to seek God’s will for our lives in all things. A Christian can really only discern a gift amount by seeking God’s will in fervent prayer.

Prayer is central to the Christian life. Discerning how much to give should not be made without prayer. This means first what God calls us to do and then listening for the voice of God in the prayer conversation.

Giving to the church is not a financial transaction. Instead, giving to the church is a spiritual exercise undertaken only after conversation with God.



The Middle Spring Handbell Choir
and Memorial Lutheran Handbell Choir
join together for a



Handbell Concert

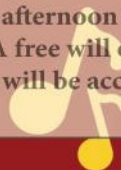
Sunday, October 12 at 4 pm



**Featured performance
with handbell soloist
Kathy Singiser
accompanied by Jane
Boley on the piano.**

Bring a friend and enjoy
an afternoon of music.

A free will offering
will be accepted.



**Join in the Celebration of
Handbell Music:**

Memorial Lutheran Church
34 East Orange Street
Shippensburg, PA 17257

OUTREACH



**It's a Memorial Lutheran Church Homecoming!
We hope to see you here on Sunday, October 26th at 10:00 am.**

There will not be an 8:00 am Quiet Service.

There will be Sunday School at 9:00 am.

Please invite others in your family who have called Memorial Lutheran Church their church home in the past also.

There will be a Meet and Greet Reception in Fellowship Hall will follow the 10:00 am Service.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH



Note the Date! Children and Youth Group will meet Sunday, October 5th. All children and youth are encouraged to attend.

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.



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

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

Advent Day Apart

Wittel Farm - Cost: \$15
Saturday, December 6
9:00 am - 2:00 pm

Advent in the Barn

Wittel Farm
December 21
7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF



Help Wanted!

We are in need of individuals who are able to sew together 11 x 8 inch quilt squares into a 60 x 80 inch quilt top. These quilt tops are for Lutheran World Relief. If you have questions or can volunteer for this, please contact Susan Lyons.

My doctor told me I needed to have protein and a good diet to heal well. The ladies from church have followed his directions. Many thanks! The food containers used to deliver food to me, should be found in the church kitchen with your name on it. Also, thanks to Sue Wenger for delivering flowers along with a nice visit. I'm blessed to belong to a loving church family.

Betsy Haller



PORK & *Sauerkraut* DINNER

Saturday, November 8, 2025

4:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Memorial Lutheran Church

Cost: By Donation



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.

This time of year, life seems to pick up speed as we head into the holidays. Halloween decorations have been in the stores for weeks. Restaurants are encouraging people to make reservations for Christmas. SPO's new director, Jennifer Crotsley, has hit the ground running as we participate in the annual Faerie Festival fundraiser and plan for our annual Thanksgiving distribution. The Thanksgiving distribution will be held November 18th and we are planning for 600 families. On that date we will distribute a box of traditional Thanksgiving food plus food for the week. Our families will also receive a gift card to a local supermarket to select the meat of their choice. Many of our families do not have the facilities available to cook a turkey, others are vegan, and many of our seniors find it difficult to manage a whole turkey. In all probability, traffic will be very heavy from 2:00 pm to 6:00 pm, so we encourage everyone to avoid the area during this time OR – come help us. Join the local mascots, the Chick-fil-A cow, a dairy princess, and some surprises.



SPO was honored to receive a grant from the Central Pa Food Bank for a two-door glass front refrigerator which will help us display dairy products for our client choice program. We also received a grant from the Foundation for Enhancing Communities which will help us purchase the nutritious dairy products to fill it.

A class from Shippensburg University is working on a documentary to focus on some of SPO's human interest stories. One of the stories will likely feature a First Energy employee who was a SPO client in his younger days. Another may be a retired Army veteran who grew up in a food insecure family and now serves as a volunteer. We look forward to seeing the results and sharing them with the community.

Although we continue to serve at least 400 families every week, we celebrate the blessings that have come our way – awesome volunteers, grants, donations, partners, supporters, and prayers. As we wrap up our sixteenth year, we count our blessings every day!

**Shippensburg Produce Outreach (SPO)
no longer needs empty egg cartons.**

Thank you for your faithful support of this need in the past!



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
1070 Stouffer Avenue
Chambersburg, PA 17201

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

Trina Ruth
509 Westover Road
Shippensburg, PA 17257

OCTOBER 2025



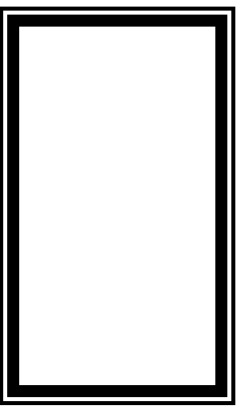
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
This calendar has the times and locations of the free community meals offered in Shippensburg	All Meals are Grabngo, drive-thru style unless stated otherwise		1	2	3	4
5 Memorial Lutheran Church (Dine in only) 34 E Orange St 11:30 A.M. - 12:30 PM	6 NO COMMUNITY MEAL	7 SPO/Diaper Bank 130 S PENN ST 3:30 PM TO 6PM Grace Place Free Hot Breakfast 21 N Prince St 10-11:30am Christ United Methodist (Dine in only) 47 E King St 6-15 p.m.	8 Newburg First Church of God (Dine in only) 260 Newburg Rd 5:30 to 6:30	9 Oasis of Love Baked Items 303 S Washington St 10:30 to 11 a.m. Prince St Brethren 20 N Prince St 5:30 P.M.	10 NO COMMUNITY MEAL	11 Christ United Methodist 47 E King St 9:30 A.M. Dine in only
12 Senior Center meals & meals on wheels 717-300-3563	13 St. Andrews Episcopal Church 206 E Burd St 5pm-6pm	14 SPO(Food Pantry) 130 S Penn St 3:30 pm to 6 pm Grace Place Free Hot Breakfast 21 N Prince St 10-11:30am Messiah United Methodist 30 S Penn St 5:30 p.m.	15 Oasis of Love 303 S Washington St 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Newburg First Church of God (Dine in only) 260 Newburg Rd 5:30 to 6:30	16 Oasis of Love Baked Items 303 S Washington St 10:30 to 11 a.m. Covenant Brethren 253 E Garfield St 5:30 P.M. TO 6:30 P.M.	17 NO COMMUNITY MEAL	18 Christ United Methodist 47 E King St 9:30 A.M. Dine in only
19 Hound Packs is for any child living in the SASD. Weekend food bags with 6 meals are distributed on Thursdays. Visit the website listed below for more info.	20 Grace United Church 121 E Orange St. 5pm Dine in only	21 SPO & Sr Boxes 130 S Penn St 3:30pm to 6pm Grace Place Free Hot Breakfast 21 N Prince St 10-11:30am	22 Newburg First Church of God (Dine in only) 260 Newburg Rd 5:30 to 6:30	23 Oasis of Love Baked Items 303 S Washington St 10:30 to 11 a.m. Middle Spring Presbyterian 135 Middle Spring Rd 5p.m. to 6 p.m.	24 NO COMMUNITY MEAL	25 Christ United Methodist 47 E King St 9:30 A.M. Dine in only
26 Is your church interested in hosting a community meal? Contact Emily at coordinator-scrs@shipresources.org	27 St. Andrews Episcopal Church 206 E Burd St 5pm-6pm	28 SPO & Sr Boxes 130 S Penn St 3:30pm to 6pm Grace Place Free Hot Breakfast 21 N Prince St 10-11:30am Messiah United Methodist 30 S Penn St 5:30 p.m.	29 Oasis of Love 303 S Washington St 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Newburg First Church of God (Dine in only) 260 Newburg Rd 5:30 to 6:30	30 Oasis of Love Baked Items 303 S Washington St 10:30 to 11 a.m. NO COMMUNITY MEAL	31 NO COMMUNITY MEAL	EVERY SAT: FOOD BOXES BY APPT (CALL MON-THURS 10AM-3PM) OASIS OF LOVE 717-532-5112

UPDATED 9/19/25 BY SHIPPESBURG COMMUNITY RESOURCE COALITION: [HTTPS://WWW.SHIPRESOURCES.ORG/FOOD](https://www.shipresources.org/food)

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.