

# Christ Calls

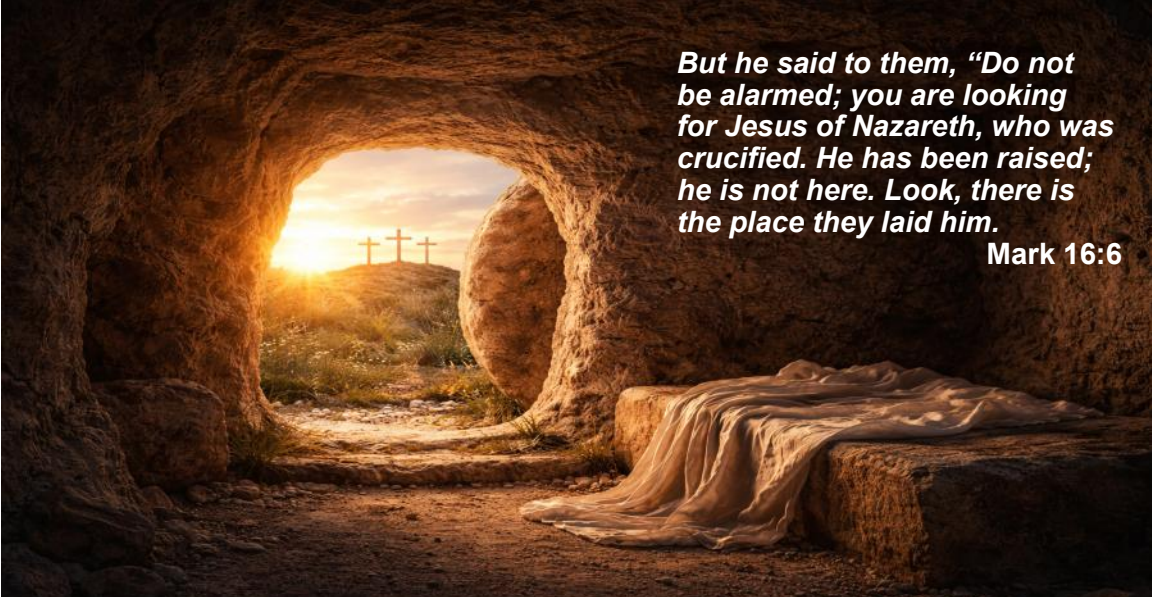
The Monthly Newsletter of Memorial Lutheran Church  
April 2026

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## Dates To Remember

April 5	Sunrise Quiet Service - 7:00 am Easter Breakfast - 8:00 am Sunday School - 9:00 am Worship/Live Stream Service - 10:00 am
April 12	Quiet Service - 8:00 am Congregational Meeting - 9:00 am Sunday School/Coffee Time - 9:00 am Worship/Live Stream Service - 10:00 am Children and Youth Group - 6:00 pm
April 13	Church Council Meeting - 6:30 pm
April 19	Quiet Service - 8:00 am Sunday School/Coffee Time - 9:00 am Worship/Live Stream Service - 10:00 am
April 26	Quiet Service - 8:00 am Sunday School/Coffee Time - 9:00 am Worship/Live Stream Service - 10:00 am



***But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him.***

**Mark 16:6**

**Memorial Lutheran Church  
34 E. Orange Street  
Shippensburg PA 17257**



**PASTOR**  
Rev. Godfred Effisah



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**SENIOR CHOIR DIRECTOR**  
Kathy Kerr



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**2026 CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS**

**ELDERS**

Linda Basler  
Mary Beth Fishel  
Susan Lyons

**TRUSTEES**

Matthew Creek  
Ryan Leach  
Galen Piper  
Bob Snyder – Treasurer

**DEACONS**

Vicky Conner  
Linda Eves  
Beth Houser  
Tasha Koenig  
Ron Luffy  
Jacob McCole  
Jan Nichols  
Cindy Pimental  
Karin Vargo



# FROM THE PASTOR

Pastor's Corner

Dear Resurrected People,

Glorious Easter to you and your household. The good news of the empty tomb is very important because it loudly reveals and proclaims the ultimate truth: that the crucified Lord has risen from the dead and has risen with us who are his disciples. Those of us who carry our crosses and follow him every day, not as observers but participants in his way of sorrows.

Yes, when Christ was raised from the tomb on Easter morning, "he rose with us." This means that the resurrected Christ is not a distant historical figure, but a living presence who walks with his disciples daily, offering hope, healing, restoring dignity, and transforming lives. With Easter comes the reassurance that death is conquered, fears are lifted, and we will never be alone again because he is risen from the dead and accompanies us on life's journey, bringing light to darkness, life from death, and hope from hopelessness. The resurrection of Christ makes us Easter People, created for good, not evil, and we are called to exemplify the Easter joy in our lives as believers of the Risen Lord.

Even though Christ is risen, we know that life is not all beauty. We are aware of darkness and sin, poverty and pain, wars and death in our homeland and all over the world. But we also know that Jesus Christ has conquered sin and passed through his own pain to the glory of the resurrection, and we, his disciples, live never to die again. We live with our eyes towards our own resurrection when our earthly life comes to an end. That is our endless hope, so we do not abandon ourselves to despair.

With the risen Lord in and around us, may we not look for a shallow joy in life. Rather, a joy that comes from faith in the risen Lord and grows through selfless love for God and others, without which it would be deceitful and unrealistic to speak of joy, and the newness the resurrection of Christ brings to all creation, especially to us who follow him as his disciples.

May we courageously proclaim through our faith in action that we are Easter people called to follow the risen Lord, to be transformed by the risen Lord, and sent as disciples by the risen Lord to go and share with others the joy and the meaning of the resurrection story.

CHRIST IS RISEN INDEED, ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA

Godfred, Pastor.



# HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE



## **Maundy Thursday Service**

Thursday, April 2, 2026  
7:00 pm

## **Good Friday Service**

Friday, April 3, 2026  
7:00 pm

## **Easter Vigil Service**

Saturday, April 4, 2026  
7:30 pm

## **Resurrection of our Lord:**

### **Easter Day Services**

Sunday, April 5, 2026

### **Sunrise/Quiet Service**

7:00 am

### **Easter Breakfast**

8:00 am

### **Sunday School**

9:00 am

### **Worship/Live Stream Service**

10:00 am

**EASTER SUNDAY BREAKFAST** - Please plan to join us for an Easter Sunday breakfast at 8:00 am following the early worship service. On the menu is ham, egg casseroles, pancakes, sausage, breakfast pastries, and beverages. Come and share in celebrating the resurrection of Christ Jesus in this special time of fellowship. †

# EASTER PEOPLE

## DISCIPLE'S LIFE DURING THE EASTERTIDE

Irrespective of what is going on in our lives, community, country, and the world, let us remember that we are Easter people and Alleluia is indeed our NEW SONG. The joy of Easter is celebrated not only during the Eastertide. It is celebrated every day of the year and especially on Sundays. Whenever we gather as disciples of Jesus and celebrate the Eucharist, we participate in the sacrifice, death, and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are therefore transformed by our active participation in the mystery of our faith and sent by Christ to lead others in their own transformation. God wants us to be transformed into a new creation, and that explains why WE ARE ALWAYS BEING MADE NEW.

As renewed Stewards of God's abundant gifts, we must hold dear to our hearts the promise of renewal and rededicate ourselves to the work of reconciliation, healing, and proclamation of the risen Lord, no matter what the cost may be to us. As disciples of the Risen Lord, every day must be a new dawn for living in the light of Christ with the goal of being like Christ to others.

Yes, there is fear among some of our brothers and sisters due to ICE's activities. Some of us, your leaders, are not living up to your expectations. Death and war overfill our news, and the less fortunate among us are being neglected. But we who are stewards of God's love must always cooperate with God's grace at work in us and our world. We must lead others out of fear and anxiety and into the light of faith, which comes with an ever-deeper understanding of God's presence among us.

Easter is a good time to discern how we, both as individuals and as a church family, can rise above and beyond tensions and troubles, fear and prejudice, to experience, first in our lives and then share with others, the joy and peace that the risen Christ offers us from Easter morning. It is also a time to ask ourselves how we can experience the gift of Easter each day of our lives as people who have been called and sent out by the risen Lord as his disciples.



# KEEP IN PRAYER

Mary Jane Adams  
 Christiana Black  
 Sue Cline  
 Rachel Diaz Debias  
**Cheryl Drake**  
**Pat Haller**  
 Denny Hamilton

**Pamela Hamilton**  
 Rose Harris  
 Gary Hawbaker  
 Sandy Jones  
 Pat Maun  
 Mary Mensah  
 Mindy

Earl Nollenberger  
**Ed Pearson**  
 Chris Pivnickny  
 Sarah  
**Francine Ritter**  
**Bill Robinson**  
**Jill Rotz**

**Ron Shuey**  
 Lynn Slow



**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



February 2026				
FUND	INCOME	EXPENSES	DIFFERENCE	YTD
CURRENT	\$19,458	\$34,321		(\$22,653)
	Income	Paid		Needed to be paid
BENEVOLENCE	\$4,936	\$1,108	\$3,828	\$3,828

# APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- |   |                  |    |                  |    |                         |
|---|------------------|----|------------------|----|-------------------------|
| 1 | Myla Alspaugh    | 10 | Kelly Coldsmith  | 23 | Thomas Shughart         |
| 1 | Keri Linn        | 11 | Angela McKee     | 25 | Christine Getz          |
| 2 | Devin Wilson     | 13 | Thomas White     | 25 | C. Michelle Luhrs-Wiest |
| 3 | Austin Alosi     | 14 | Corey Evans      | 29 | Cindy Hershey           |
| 6 | Olivia Creek     | 14 | Suzanne Shuey    | 29 | Hal Still               |
| 6 | Alessandra Luffy | 19 | Donald Hilbinger |    |                         |
| 7 | Zach Piper       | 22 | Patti Creek      |    |                         |



## AD 2026: MEMORIAL LUTHERAN YEAR OF DISCIPLESHIP

How well do you know the disciples? During his earthly ministry, Jesus called 12 men to serve alongside him, accompanying him as he journeyed throughout Israel. From the tax collector to the “zealot,” these men came from all walks of life. One would betray him, one would deny him three times, and three would go on to write gospel accounts documenting his time on earth. This month, we invite you to test your knowledge about the disciples – try this discipleship trivia!

1. Who was the first disciple to be called by Jesus?  
a) Peter            b) Matthew            c) Thomas            d) Andrew            e) John
2. John and his brother James were the only disciples known to receive nicknames from Jesus.  
a) True            b) False
3. Which of the following statements about John’s gospel is false?  
a) John’s principal purpose is to account for Jesus’ divinity  
b) It includes numerous minor details that are not seen in other gospel accounts  
c) It stresses the role of the Holy Spirit  
d) It emphasizes the significance of love  
e) It contains nearly 60 direct quotations from the Old Testament
4. There were two disciples named Judas.  
a) True            b) False
5. Which disciple called attention to the boy with the loaves and fish at the feeding of the 5,000?  
a) James the Younger    b) Bartholomew    c) Andrew    d) Philip    e) Matthew
6. Which Biblical figure was NOT one of the disciples?  
a) Matthew    b) Mark    c) Philip    d) John    e) Bartholomew
7. Which of the following statements about James the Younger is true?  
a) The only instances where his name appears in the Bible are in lists of the apostles  
b) He was the son of Alphaeus  
c) He was given the power to heal and cast out demons  
d) He was present at Pentecost  
e) All of the above!
8. Who does the Bible refer to as the disciple “whom Jesus loved”?  
a) Matthew    b) Peter    c) Luke    d) John    e) James the Greater
9. Who was the first disciple to be martyred?  
a) James the Greater    b) Andrew    c) Peter    d) John    e) Philip
10. Which disciple replaced Judas?  
a) Nathaniel    b) Bartholomew    c) Matthias    d) Thomas    e) Barsabbas

# CONGREGATIONAL MEETING



There will be a Congregational Meeting on Sunday, April 12<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am. The agenda for the meeting is a presentation by the Preschool Task Force.

**Children and Youth Group will meet on Sunday, April 12th at 6:00 pm.**  
All Children and Youth are invited! Bring a friend!



**Women of the ELCA will meet on Wednesday, April 15th at 12 pm.** Bring a packed lunch. Dessert is provided. WELCA is open to all women. Invite a friend!

More information on activities can be found at [www.lutherancamping.org](http://www.lutherancamping.org)

## Work Day

Nawakwa  
April 11 at 9:00 am  
Help get camp ready for summer!

## Earth Day Celebration

Kirchenwald  
April 19 from 2:00 pm to 6:00 pm  
Cost is \$15 - includes an evening meal

## Work Day

Kirchenwald  
April 25 at 8:30 am  
Complimentary lunch!

## Summer Camp Open House

Nawakwa & Kirchenwald  
April 12 from 2:00 pm - 4:30 pm

## A Night for Nawakwa

April 25

## Lutheran Camping Night

Harrisburg Senators at FNB Field  
May 8



# OUTREACH



Thanks to everyone who supported and helped in any way with the Easter Bunny Breakfast! You are appreciated!



**THE NATIONAL CHRISTIAN CHOIR'S**  
**"2nd Edition"**  
*Music That Makes a Difference*

**Saturday, May 02, 2026**  
**4:00pm**

Memorial Lutheran Church  
34 East Orange Street  
Shippensburg, Pennsylvania

Kathy Bowman, Director

[www.NationalChristianChoir.org](http://www.NationalChristianChoir.org) / 301-670-6331

Invite your friends & family to this dynamic & energetic concert.

Free will offering.

Reception with refreshments to follow.

# 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.***

To everyone who came to our lasagna dinner or went online to donate to the Match Madness fundraiser – THANK YOU! Extra special thanks to Jean Robinson who shopped, prepped, cooked, and helped clean up – THANK YOU! We could not have done it without you! SPO will receive all donations that have been made plus \$1500 in matching funds as well as a share of the stretch fund at an event honoring all the participating nonprofits. We appreciate your support!

Great news: SPO will now pick up food donations in our new cargo van rather than the personal vehicles we have been using for the last 18 years. Our 2024 Chevy van was funded entirely with a grant from a Department of Environmental Protection Food Recovery Infrastructure Grant. We researched, compared prices, and completed endless forms. Although the process took almost two years, we are so grateful to have a practical vehicle for food donations.

Every week we see more families applying for help and at the same time food pantry funding is cut and grocery prices rise. We deeply appreciate the support from our community and all those who offer their time, skills, and assistance as we navigate this challenging time. May we all be thankful for the many blessings of our lives and for being part of the dream and hope that was the intention of Katie's Place. Thank you for your donations, your time, and your prayers!



# GOOD & FAITHFUL SERVANTS

**Please keep our homebound in your prayers.**

Mary Kay Dagenhart  
Magnolia of Chambersburg  
Room #20  
745 Norland Avenue  
Chambersburg, PA 17201

Pamela Hamilton  
19 Lantern Lane  
Shippensburg, PA 17257

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

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

Dorothy Railing  
117 Cleversburg Road  
Shippensburg, PA 17257

Trina Ruth  
509 Westover Road  
Shippensburg, PA 17257

Wayne Widney  
Chambersburg Skilled Nursing &  
Rehab  
1070 Stouffer Ave  
Chambersburg, PA 17201



## POEM ON THE RESURRECTION

We hold so close to our hearts  
The cross where Jesus died,  
But so much more than the  
    blood-stained cross  
Is that Jesus came back to life

The stone's been rolled away;  
The tomb lay open and bare —  
They looked for Him, and then  
    the angel said  
That He is no longer here

Oh what joy they must have felt  
To see Him just once more,  
To eat with Him, to drink with Him,  
To receive Him back as Lord

So much did He accomplish  
Through His death upon the cross  
And in His rising from the dead,  
He reconciled us back to God

Nothing else could bridge the gap  
That sin had wrenched apart —  
Now we can freely go to God  
And receive Christ in our hearts.

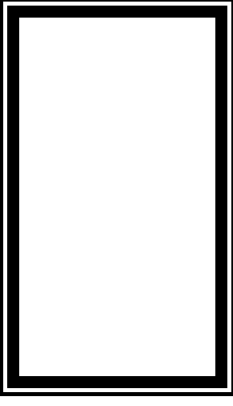
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MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
34 E ORANGE ST  
SHIPPENSBURG PA 17257-1993

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL



**Welcoming all.**

**Reaching out in love.**

**Growing together in Christ.**

**Worshipping and serving in Jesus' name.**