

Christ Calls

The Monthly Newsletter of Memorial Lutheran Church
May 2026

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Dates To Remember

May 2	National Christian Choir "2nd Edition" - 4pm
May 3	Quiet Service - 8:00 am Sunday School/Coffee Time - 9:00 am Worship/Live Stream Service - 10:00 am First Sunday Lunch - 11:30 am
May 10	Mother's Day Quiet Service - 8:00 am Sunday School/Coffee Time - 9:00 am Worship/Live Stream Service - 10:00 am
May 11	Church Council Meeting - 6:30 pm
May 17	Quiet Service - 8:00 am Sunday School/Coffee Time - 9:00 am Worship/Live Stream Service - 10:00 am Children & Youth Group - 6:00 pm
May 24	Quiet Service - 8:00 am Sunday School/Coffee Time - 9:00 am Worship/Live Stream Service - 10:00 am
May 25	Memorial Day
May 31	Quiet Service - 8:00 am Sunday School/Coffee Time - 9:00 am Worship/Live Stream Service - 10:00 am



"Worship the Lord your God,
and serve only him."

Matthew 4:10, NRSV

**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



***Happy Mother's Day
to every mother
figure. Your care
shapes lives and
strengthens faith.***

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

Dear Siblings in the Risen Lord,

Easter joy is the foundation for our Stewardship

Christ is risen! Alleluia! The tomb is empty, and our hearts are full of joy!

The Easter season fills us with gratitude, joy, and hope. Jesus Christ died on the cross for our sins and rose from the dead on Easter morning to give us the greatest of all gifts: eternal salvation. He said, "I have come that you may have life and have it abundantly" (John 10:10).

If God has done this for us through Jesus Christ, then how are we to demonstrate our gratitude to God for this amazing gift? The Psalmist challenges us by saying, "What shall I return to the Lord for all his goodness to me?" (Psalm 116:12). He gave everything up for us, including His life. All He asks from us is a portion of the gifts He generously gave to each of us. The Easter message is the ultimate foundation for all Christian stewardship because, through the resurrection story, God calls each of us to be a good steward in every aspect of our lives.

In our ELCA tradition, Stewardship is understood as a holistic, faith-driven way of life, often summarized as "everything we do after we say, 'I believe'." It is, in fact, the management of all the gifts God provides: time, talent, and treasure (by extension, relationships, and health, etc.) in response to God's love, rather than just a financial campaign. This makes stewardship a lifestyle and not a budget. To be good stewards, we are called to pay attention to our lifestyle in general as Easter people as well as our Time, Talent, and Treasure. We are called to spend "time" with God in prayer, share our gifts of "talent" in service, and give proportionately of our "treasure" out of generosity. Giving time and talent does not excuse us from giving treasure.

Throughout the Easter season, our hearts have been drawn to the profound message of renewal, hope, and Christ's resurrection. And we are therefore invited to reflect on our lives as stewards of God's love and to discern how we are called to make a meaningful impact on Memorial Lutheran's mission through our stewardship.

By recognizing our blessings and actively expressing gratitude through our Time, Talent, and Treasure, we make a positive impact on our church community, we honor the teachings of Christ, and contribute to the transformative power of Easter. May our actions be a testament to the love that triumphs over darkness, bringing hope, joy, and resurrection to those in need. As we celebrate the joyous Easter season, may we be inspired by God's generosity to embody Easter's essence in our daily lives.

CHRIST IS RISEN INDEED, ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

Godfred, Pastor



THE NATIONAL CHRISTIAN CHOIR'S "2nd Edition"

Music That Makes a Difference



Kathy Bowman, Director

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

Memorial Lutheran Church
34 East Orange Street
Shippensburg, Pennsylvania

www.NationalChristianChoir.org / 301-670-6331



HOPE ACADEMY



Jennifer Graf is the director and a teacher at Hope Academy PA, a bilingual S.T.E.A.M. focused preschool started in the fall of 2023 in Middletown, PA. Hope Academy is the educational arm of Tree 4 Hope, a central PA based non-profit originally started to help support under-



privileged children in Guatemala. The original Hope Academy was started in Guatemala in 2019 with one school of 9 pre-school aged girls. Today, it has grown to encompass grades pre-K through 6th grade and serves more than 170 girls in need. Jennifer is excited to share more about Tree 4 Hope's impactful work of ensuring access to quality education here in PA and abroad! **Jennifer Graf will provide a Temple Talk about Hope Academy on Sunday, May 3rd during the 10:00 am worship service and will also share a slide presentation during the May 3rd First Sunday Luncheon.**

FIRST SUNDAY LUNCH



WHAT'S for LUNCH on May 3rd? Always a meal pleaser, on the menu for this month's lunch is pasta with sauce, tossed salad, bread, fruit, beverages, and desserts. Contributions from your kitchen creations are most welcomed. We look forward to sharing good food and your company at this fellowship gathering with our church family and friends. See you there! †

NOISY OFFERING

Start saving your coins!
There will be a Noisy Offering giving opportunity on Sunday, May 17th for Hope Academy.



KEEP IN PRAYER

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

**MOTHERS & THOSE
WHO NURTURE OUR
WORLD**



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



March 2026				
FUND	INCOME	EXPENSES	DIFFERENCE	YTD
CURRENT	\$46,294	28,115	18,179	(\$4,474)
	Income	Paid		Needed to be paid
BENEVOLENCE	\$5,207	\$5,601	(\$394)	\$3,434

MAY BIRTHDAYS

3	Mollie Varner	15	Andrea Pugh	21	Jillian Leach
3	Karen DeShong	16	Alexandria Gimmi	22	Michelle Effisah
9	Vicky White	16	Oliver Povilaitis	23	Joseph E. Dewey
10	Thomas E. Enderlein Jr.	18	Anne Myers	26	Beth Houser
13	Mackenzie Gruver	19	Isabella Booz	28	Mary Kay Dagenhart
14	Reagan Evans	20	Robert Gimmi	30	Matthew Creek

AD 2026: MEMORIAL LUTHERAN YEAR OF DISCIPLESHIP



Another name for DISCIPLESHIP in the congregation setting is FAITH IN ACTION. During this post-Easter season, disciples are expected to focus on celebrating the Resurrection, transitioning from the penitential season of Lent to the joy of NEW LIFE, NEW HOPE, and act as witnesses to Christ's victory. We witness to the joy of the resurrection by **strengthening our personal relationships with Jesus through prayer, reading scriptures, participation in our Eucharistic life, sharing the gospel, fostering community, and living out its implications in our daily lives.** In this month of May, our focus is on FAITH IN ACTION.

FAITH IN ACTION: QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

What is Faith in Action?

Faith in Action is the call to actively live out our discipleship through service. Here at Memorial Lutheran, this means **participating** in our ministries, **volunteering** in the life of our congregation, and **using our time and talents** to serve others as Christ did.

Why is Faith in Action important?

Jesus teaches us to love and serve one another. By committing to acts of service, we strengthen our faith, build a stronger faith community, and bring Christ's love to those in need, starting from Memorial.

Does Discipleship require us to be actively involved in the life of Memorial?

Yes, and we have many ministries organized by their focus and role in Memorial's life. Ministries range from Worship & Music, Faith Formation, Fellowship/Fair Stand, Finance, Property, Personnel, Outreach, Stewardship, Mutual, etc.

Please take time to pray, discern, and consider where your gifts, talents, and passions might fit in. Know that you are welcome to serve as a volunteer during an event, as a

FREE Adult Heart Screening (18 years of age and up) in partnership with WellSpan Health on: Saturday, May 30th, at the Chambersburg Memorial YMCA, from 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM! These screening is completely free and provides individuals with access to important heart health insights, including: Biometrics, EKG screenings (Echocardiogram if needed), Heart Murmur Check, Review by medical professionals, Education on heart health and prevention, CPR/AED Demonstration. We are also seeking volunteers to support this lifesaving event. Register Here: <https://www.peytonwalker.org/adult-heart-screenings-18/>



CHILDREN AND YOUTH

**Children and Youth Group will meet on
Sunday, May 17th at 6:00 pm for a Variety Night!
Note Date change! All Children and Youth are invited!
Bring a friend!**



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

Lutheran Camping Night

Harrisburg Senators at FNB Field
May 8

Summer Kick-Off Worship & Picnic

Kirchenwald
May 17, 2026 at 3:30 pm

Elder Camp (Nawakwa)

July 5-10, 2026

Family Camp (Nawakwa)

July 19-24, 2026

Kirkenwald Camp-K-Tion

Family Camp
August 2-7, 2026

Family Camp II (Nawakwa)

August 9-14, 2026



**Come support our
Confirmands as they are
Confirmed on Pentecost
Sunday, May 24th.**



OUTREACH



The Shippensburg Church of the Nazarene has a program called **Celebrate Recovery** which is about a year old and is having good success. However, there is a need for child care. The program takes place every Monday evening from 6 pm to 8 pm at the church at 429 East Orange St. A meal is served at 5:30 pm if you desire to come then. The number of children varies between 1 and 4 individuals. You may volunteer for one Monday per month, or as many as you wish. Please call Ashley Emlet at 717-462-8577 for more information.

Hound Packs Alert: Your continued support with \$\$ or items is needed until the end of school to fill Hound Packs for approximately 1925 school age children that receive two breakfasts of oatmeal packets, granola bars and cereal bowls/packs.



REMEMBER donations for our Little Free Pantry too!



Save the Dates for the Shippensburg Community Fair on your calendar so you can volunteer to work in our church Fair Food Stand! Many hands are needed to cover all the shifts during the week! This is a great time of fun and fellowship as we serve our community together. Our Fair Food Stand will be open July 20-25! Volunteer sign-up sheets will be posted in June.

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.

“Most Americans wouldn’t think that an educated, middle-aged mother of four, working in corporate America would struggle with food insecurity, but I’m here to tell you that I am and I’m not alone,” said a mom at registration. The United States Department of Agriculture defines food insecurity simply as “a household that their access to adequate food for active, healthy living is limited by lack of money and other resources. While some Americans experience very low food security, a more severe range of food insecurity where food intake of one or more members is reduced and normal eating patterns are disrupted, according to the Economic Research Service.”



It is no surprise that food insecurity rates are higher in single mother households and homes where the families are living at or below the poverty line. The numbers are substantially higher than the national average for Black families at 21% and Hispanic households at 16%. Larger cities and rural areas see more food insecurity than the suburban areas. In 2025, SPO served **19,700 households** and **56,856 individuals**, distributing **39,126 bags of food**. So far in 2026, SPO has served over four hundred families every week.

When SPO began in the summer of 2008, we were a small group who just wanted to provide healthy produce to our neighbors. Families came through the Katie’s Place kitchen and chose the food that best suited them. This summer we will add a Client Choice option in addition to regular distribution. Families will have the flexibility to come to the warehouse and choose from the produce and other healthy products that suit their needs. We are grateful for the donations and grants that make this service available. If you are interested in volunteering to help with this new market, details will be available by the middle of May. As always, we welcome your prayers and support.

**You care for the land and
water it; you enrich it
abundantly. Psalm 65:9 NIV**



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

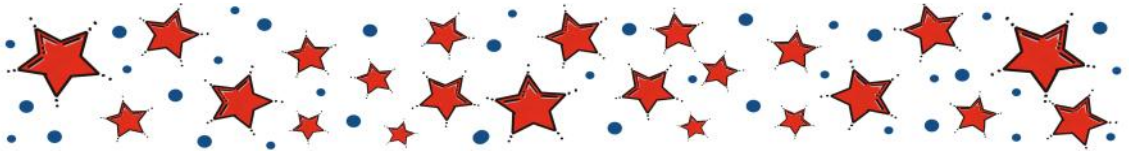
Doug & Pat Maun
211 S. Washington Street
Shippensburg, PA 17257

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



GREATER LOVE
has no one than this:
to lay down one's life
for one's friends.

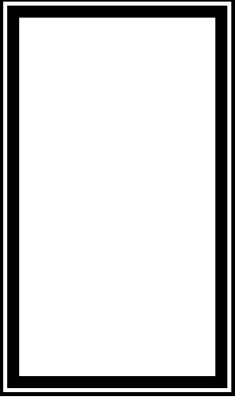
John 15:13, NIV



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.