

Christ Calls

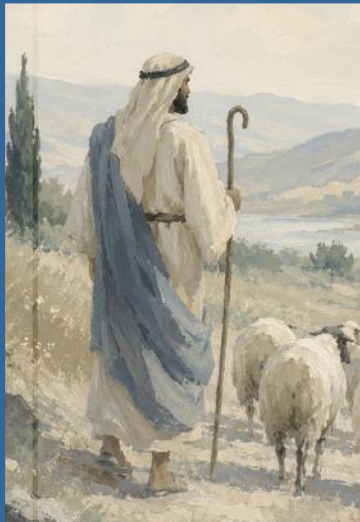
The Monthly Newsletter of Memorial Lutheran Church
September 2026

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Dates To Remember

Sept. 6	Quiet Service - 8:00 am Sunday School - 9:00 am Worship/Live Stream Service - 10:00 am
Sept. 7	Labor Day - Church Office Closed
Sept. 13	God's Work. Our Hands. Quiet Service - 8:00 am Sunday School/Coffee Time - 9:00 am Worship/Live Stream Service - 10:00 am Fellowship Meal - 11:30 am Archives Open House - 12:00 pm
Sept. 14	Church Council Meeting - 6:30 pm
Sept. 19	Leadership Retreat - 9:00 am Better Together Festival - 10:00 am
Sept. 20	Quiet Service - 8:00 am Sunday School/Coffee Time - 9:00 am Worship/Live Stream Service - 10:00 am
Sept. 27	Quiet Service - 8:00 am Sunday School/Coffee Time - 9:00 am Worship/Live Stream Service - 10:00 am



My sheep hear my voice,
and I know them,
and they follow me.
I give them eternal life,
and they will never perish.

John 10:27-28, ESV



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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
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FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Siblings in Christ,

“A new command I give you: **Love one another**. As I have loved you, so you must **love one another**.” John 13:34.

I trust you all are well and enjoying the last gasps of summer. As we gradually bring our Congregational Year of Discipleship to an end, I invite you to join me in reflecting on what is at the very core of discipleship: love. Jesus requires us to love one another because the ultimate mark of discipleship is love. That is why Jesus stated that loving one another proves a person is a true follower. The love Jesus commands requires more action than words. Love as commanded by the Lord is not subject to our individual feelings. Demonstrating this love involves patience, kindness, and helpful actions. Interestingly, the source of this love is Christ himself, and growth in discipleship comes from receiving God’s love first and then sharing it with ONE ANOTHER.

In the New Testament, the Greek pronoun “ἀλλήλων” (allēlōn) is translated into English as “one another,” or “each other.” “One another” is used to express mutual obligation, affection, or action within the community of believers. Jesus commands us, his followers, to love one another as he has loved us, making love the differentiating and distinctive mark of his disciples. Loving is not always easy, but through the community of faith we learn to love as Christ loves us. As we grow in discipleship, our capacity to love deepens not for God alone, but for one another in ways the world will recognize as Jesus’ disciples.

Friends, the New Testament in various ways and places make reference to “one another” like Love one another John 13:34, honor one another Romans 12:10, accept one another Romans 15:7, bear one another’s burden Galatians 6:2, forgive one another Ephesians 4:32, encourage one another 1Thessalonians 5:11, wash one another’s feet, John 13:14, etc., teaches us that as disciples of Jesus we must always keep one eye on God and the other eye on our neighbors (the other person). This is because Jesus does not call us to follow him alone. Yes, he called us with the intention that we may invite others to come and follow him. So as disciples, let us be there for one another, care for one another, and ultimately love one another, since love within our faith family can be a source of strength and serve as a living testimony for those we desire to bring to Christ.

Fellow disciples on a journey with the Lord, loving God completely, and loving one another as ourselves form the basis of the Law and the Prophets, and are at the very core of our call to discipleship. May the Lord deepen our faith and help us to understand the interconnectedness between us and one another.

God bless you and your family, and enjoy the last days of summer.

Pax,
Godfred, Pastor.



COUNCIL

Church Council met Monday, August 10, 2026. The meeting was called to order and Concerns and Thanksgivings were shared. Thanksgivings and appreciations were given for the help with the Fair Stand and Vacation Bible School. Thanksgivings and appreciations were given for Ryan Leach and the Preschool Advisory Committee, and Church Council for all the work they do.

Devotions were led by Pastor Godfred reflecting on Micah 6:6-8. Pastor Godfred gave the opening prayer.

Pastor Godfred reported on several key August events and their dates including VBS – 8/7, WELCA Convention 8/14, Blessing of School Students/Staff 8/16, Corn Festival 8/29, and Jess Alspaugh will be received into membership on 8/30. Upcoming September events include: God's Work Our Hands Ingathering Project 9/13. The Memorial Leadership Retreat will be held on Saturday, September 19, 2026, from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm. Rev. Dennis Beaver will lead the retreat. All council members and two leaders from each committee/ministry and prospective leaders are to participate. Pastor also reported that this year's Annual Congregational Survey will be completed at the end of the worship service during the postlude in the worship service. Combined worship service at 9:00 am on the Sundays that Congregational Meetings are held. Pastor led discussions on starting a Youth After School Program. Additional discussions are needed to address the program's vision, purpose, goal, age group, program, time, frequency, staffing, clearances, student transportation, etc. It was recommended to consider waiting to pursue this until after the Preschool is up and running.

Finance Ministry presented a few options regarding the copier lease which ends soon. It was decided to replace our current large Toshiba with a new mid-sized Toshiba 6525ac. The lease payment would be \$238 per month as compared to the \$230 per month we are presently paying.

Christian Education Ministry reported that 2 children attended the Children and Youth Group meeting. Uprise Festival is on September 11 and 12; we will register those students who want to attend. Concern was raised that the upstairs children's Sunday School classroom is very hot.

Church Property reported the elevator requires another inspection. A new ice machine was installed in the kitchen. Church Property is working on entrance lights and would like to change fluorescent lights to LED lights. The AED units need to be mounted to the wall and lastly the handicap spots in the church parking have been changed.

Fellowship/Fair Stand donated \$7,000.00 to the church.

Stewardship Ministry reported planned fundraisers include September 15th Dine to Donate at Jersey Mike's. The October 24th Smith's Chicken BBQ was cancelled due to double-booking. A bake sale and car wash may still be held that day at H&H Chevrolet. Sauerkraut dinner will be held Saturday, November 7, 2026 at Memorial and a Shredding Event is planned for on May 21, 2027.

Continued from page 4

Archives Committee continued work on setting up the museum. The Archives open house is scheduled for September 13th following the Community Lunch.

Preschool Committee distributed the Preschool Policy Manual to Council for review; edits will be incorporated. The first day of Preschool will be Monday, August 31st. This will be a shortened day with the preschool student's caregiver being invited to stay for the first day of preschool with their child.

Women of the ELCA reported that the convention will be held at Memorial Lutheran Church on August 14th. Approximately 32 people will be attending.

SPO/Katie's Place reported that the Client Choice is doing well. Katie's Place is looking forward to the Better Together event Saturday 9/19/2026 and will ask the police to close Penn Street during the event.

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 14, 2026

Respectfully submitted,

Karin Vargo

Congregation Vice President



2026 MEMORIAL LEADERSHIP RETREAT

All Council members and two leaders from each committee/ministry in our faith family, are invited to participate in our **2026 Leadership Retreat scheduled for Saturday, September 19, 2026.** The retreat director is The Rev. Dennis Beaver, the former pastor of Evangelical Lutheran Church, Waynesboro. The program will be held in Fellowship Hall from 9:00 A.M to 12 noon. Lunch will be provided. The church parking lot will be used for the Katie's Place Better Together Festival during the retreat. Please park in other areas near the church.

KEEP IN PRAYER

Rachel Diaz Debias
Paula Ford
Pamela Hamilton
Sandy Jones

Mary Mensah
Ed Pearson
Ron Shuey
Wendy & Ross Thoman

Whitney Vargo
Sue Williams

**Prayer Focus: Students
& Teachers**



Memorial's Prayer Chain - To have your prayer request placed on the prayer chain, please contact Jean Goldthorpe (223-386-7283), or you may give your request to the church office.

FINANCES



July 2026				
FUND	INCOME	EXPENSES	DIFFERENCE	YTD
CURRENT	\$37,649	\$38,379	(\$730)	(\$9,776)
	Income	Paid		Needed to be paid
BENEVOLENCE	\$2,321	\$7,890	(\$5,569)	\$506

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1	Jason White	15	Isabella Kyle	21	McKenna Leach
3	Toryn Wilson	16	Mary Cox	22	Karly Hamman
6	Douglas Nichols	16	Devin Whistler	23	Morgan Creek
7	Marissa Sandoe	19	Godfred Effisah	24	Shelia Barklow
9	Robert Dewey	20	Tasha Koenig	25	Jo Anne Coy
10	Lauren Brundzo	21	Christopher Young	26	Olivia Booz
10	Lillian Creek	21	Nicholas Fleming	29	Nicholas Alspaugh
13	Jonathan Perdew	21	Christina Sweat		

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION FOR SUMMER

"Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also" (Matthew 6:21).

On Sabbath and the Stewardship of Time

I hope this note finds you on vacation, just back from vacation or packing for vacation, beloved. And even if not a long, formal vacation, I hope this note finds you taking a more relaxed pace in these days where my Celtic ancestors encouraged us to spend more time outside in the "House of Light."

Many folks see summer as vacation season and rightfully so. Sabbath is not just a gift given by the Divine; it's a command. And while most folks think "Remember the sabbath day and keep it holy" means "go to church," that's actually not the commandment (though worship is certainly a part of sabbath).

The commandment is to remember that humans are not just meant to be producers and consumers; that's a capitalistic way of thinking often imposed upon God's economy. The commandment reminds us that we are worthy and worth something in this life not because we produce but because we are produced by a God who makes us worthy.

In other words, when we think of how we steward time, it's important to plan fallow time in there. Vacation. Sabbath. God has given it not just as gift but as commandment. It can be both.

So how, beloved, are you encouraging your people and yourself to steward sabbath time? And how are you connecting that to the discipleship practice of stewardship?

Remember that when we talk about stewardship only in reference to money or pocket-books, we truly shortchange (pun intended) the discipleship life that God in Christ invites us into. Everything that has value is something to be stewarded, and certainly time has value.

Indeed, it is the least renewable resource we have as mortals.

So, beloved, I'll ask again: how are you stewarding your time in these summer months? How are you encouraging your people to steward their time as disciples, finding God in the fallow moments?

And if no one else has ever told you: you are worthy, by God, not because of what, how and how much you produce but because you are the product of a God who loves you, for Christ's sake, and will not let you go.

Pax,



The Rev. Tim Brown
Director of Congregational Stewardship Support



FUNDRAISING

Thank you 

Thanks to everyone who helped in any way with the Corn Festival parking lot fundraiser and water bottle distribution.

JERSEY MIKE'S FUNDRAISER

Tuesday, September 15th • 4 PM - 9 PM



DOWNLOAD
OUR APP
↓ SCAN WITH CELL



Good goes beyond the sub! **Visit our store or order on our app using promo code JMGIVES on September 15th 4 PM - 9 PM—and we'll happily donate 20% of your sale in support of Memorial Lutheran Church . Enjoy some great subs and help Jersey Mike's support this worthy cause.**

VALID ONLY AT: 40 SHIPPENSBURG SHOPPING CENTER • SHIPPENSBURG, PA • 717-966-8020

Valid in app with promo code JMGIVES or mention this fundraiser in store. 4484

OUTREACH

Thank you for your “Noisy Offering” giving for Lutheran Disaster Response. To date, \$407.89 has been received.



God's Work, Our Hands Sunday Ingathering, September 13th for Hope Academy, Guatemala. There will be a monetary collection for black shoes for the children of Hope Academy, Guatemala. *It has been suggested by David Hope-Tringali of Tree 4 Hope, that the black shoes for school children come with a cost of \$20.00.* Any monetary contributions will be greatly appreciated. The **class room needs continue to be 3 ring binders, dry erase expo markers, and Play Doh.** All items will be a “huge help” for the school children. Please bring your “Ingathering” items with you to worship on Sunday, September 13th. If you won't be here on September 13th or need to bring your donations in earlier, please place them on the table in the back of Fellowship Hall where the sign for Ingathering is located. All Ingathering items will be greatly received and delivered to Hope Academy Guatemala by a Tree 4 Hope team at the end of October. Blessings as you participate in this Ingathering.

WHAT'S for LUNCH? – SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13th

Be sure to mark the second Sunday of September (the 13th) for this month's lunch. We will be serving 'Gravy Train' (ground beef gravy), mashed potatoes, vegetable du jour, fruit, beverages and, always appreciated, desserts of your offerings. Please join us for this time of fellowship and good food with our church family and friends at this month's meal. *See you there!*



Meals on Wheels needs DRIVERS and desperately seeking kitchen help at 7:30 am—10:30 am to pack meals. If you are interested, please contact Diana Nazario at 717-300-3563 or by email at diana.nazario@mennohaven.org.

AD 2026 PARISH YEAR OF DISCIPLESHIP

Throughout this year, we have been talking about DISCIPLESHIP and how Jesus calls us, through the church, to be his disciples and to go and make disciples. We have reminded ourselves several times that discipleship is a lifelong journey of living out and spreading the good news of Jesus Christ. Disciples are followers of Jesus who are intent on carrying out the Great Commission (Matthew 28:19–20) and the Great Command (Acts 1:8). **So, how are you doing as a disciple so far in our year of discipleship? How are you growing in your call to discipleship? Have you been focusing on the marks of discipleship?**

The marks of discipleship are the core habits, actions, and character traits that distinguish a person who follows Jesus Christ from those who are not on this journey with the Lord. **These marks focus on spiritual growth, love for others, and active service and involvement in the life of the faith community.** Our call as disciples should be the primary marking in our lives. It should be our very identity as disciples (followers) of Jesus. The life of a disciple can be challenging, and we all need to grow in it through faithfulness and perseverance. **How are you growing as a disciple?**

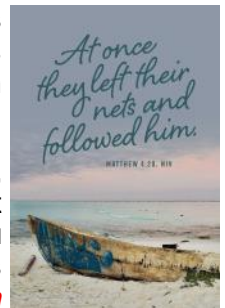
SOME MARKS OF DISCIPLESHIP

Disciples are called: Luke 5:1-11 perfectly illustrates this. God always acts first! Jesus came to the fishermen and invited them. Only after this invitation to discipleship does our choice matter. Jesus has called each of us just as he called his first followers. *How do you feel called?*

Disciples intentionally respond to Jesus' call: After we are called, then a disciple must respond positively to the call. If Peter had not dropped his nets and followed Jesus, he would not be a disciple. You can't follow if you don't make a choice, and you cannot follow Jesus with all that you've got. *How are you responding to this call from Jesus?*

Disciples love: This is a primary mark of a disciple and the core of discipleship. Love of God and love of others. Jesus says that others will know we are his disciples by our love for one another. (John 13:35). *How are you living out your call to loving others like Jesus?*

Disciples are fruitful: In fact, Jesus says that being fruitful PROVES that you are his disciple. "This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples" - John 15:8. What fruit are you bearing? *Are you bearing fruit as Jesus' disciple?*



AD 2026 PARISH YEAR OF DISCIPLESHIP

Disciples know the word of God: Disciples are taught and know the Scripture; we constantly find the disciples of Jesus learning from Him. They listen and then implement the teaching in their lives (or at least attempt to). We too must follow in that example. The life of a Christian disciple is one of lifelong learning to be like Christ. *How often do you study the word of God?*

Disciples follow: The word "disciple" means "follower". All our life of discipleship starts with following Jesus. We must do as he did. Love as he loved. Choose what he chose. *Do you feel like you are following Jesus, or are you leading your own path?*

Disciples keep an eye on Heaven: This world is not our final home; we are just passing through as pilgrims on earth. We are made to live with God forever in eternity. Yet, this heavenly home is determined by our decisions and choices in this life. The prize of heaven is a gift we must keep our eyes on, so that we don't miss it. *How ready are you for heaven?*

Disciples carry crosses: Discipleship isn't easy. Jesus puts it this way, "If any person would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me." -Luke 9:23. We should never forget that suffering is a part of discipleship. It isn't merely about feeling good emotions and good times. It is about trusting God in all circumstances. *Are you allowing Christ to help you carry your cross, or are you trying to carry it alone?*



Disciples spend time with Jesus in prayer: If we do what Jesus did, then we need to live in an intimate relationship with God. "He was praying in a certain place, and when he ceased, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples." - Luke 11:1. *Are you a praying disciple?*

Disciples love and serve God and one another: Think of the many times the disciples were called to serve. Jesus did not come to be served but to serve. After he had washed the feet of the disciples, he commanded them to wash each other's feet. The life of a disciple is always a life of service. *Who are those that you are serving: yourself or God and others?*

Disciples make other disciples: Ultimately, we need to do what Jesus did and what he sent us to do: "make disciples." This was his final command and the one we cannot avoid personally. *What does it mean to make other disciples? Have you ever invited someone to church? Have you ever thought about inviting someone to Memorial?*

May we always remember that we are not sent as disciples alone. Jesus accompanies us on the journey to making other disciples – Matthew 28:20b.

CHURCH CHOIRS



**Senior Choir Practices will resume on
Wednesday, September 9th at 7:00 pm.**

**Bell Choir Practices will resume on
Wednesday, September 16th at 5:45 pm.**

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

CHILDREN'S CHOIR TO START SOON

Vicky Conner is the Children's Choir Director. Practices will begin soon. Children will rehearse 2 or 3 times a month during Sunday School.



**The Lutheran Camping Corporation of Central Pennsylvania
Welcomes Rev. William "Bill" Worley as Executive Director**



More information on Camp Activities can be found at www.lutherancamping.org



Nawakwa Work Day

September 1 at 9:00 am

NWK Parent's Group - Nawakwa

September 5 at 10:00 am

Party with a Purpose - Kirchenwald

September 26

Fall Foliage Day - Nawakwa

October 18 at 1:00 pm

CHILDREN AND YOUTH



Our children and youth are invited to attend the Uprise Festival held at the Shippensburg Fair Grounds on September 11 & 12. The church will purchase a "Full Event" ticket for the children and youth who want to attend, however Pastor Godfred and another adult will only be chaperoning the youth on one of these days. ***Please sign your child's name to the sign-up sheet on the counter across from the office and indicate which day your child would prefer to attend.*** Pastor Godfred will make the decision as to which day the children/youth will be chaperoned by him. Children/Youth can attend the other day of the event with their family/friends if they purchase their own ticket. Please talk to Pastor Godfred if you have any questions.



NEW CONFIRMATION CLASSES

Confirmation is an opportunity for candidates to affirm the promises their parents made for them during their baptism. Confirmation celebrates the fullness of the Holy Spirit conferred upon the individual at baptism. Confirmation classes offer middle school students and anyone who has not been confirmed the opportunity to learn about their faith as they prepare to become mature and active members of their faith community.

In this new confirmation class at Memorial, Pastor and other adults passionate about youth formation will serve as mentors and Confirmation leaders. During Confirmation classes, candidates and their leaders will explore together deeply how to be a faithful disciple of Jesus. We will study Luther's Small Catechism, which includes the Ten Commandments, the Apostle's Creed, the Lord's Prayer, the Sacrament of Holy Baptism, Confession, and more. We will also study the Old Testament, the New Testament, and the Life of Martin Luther. Last, but not least, we will learn about what it means to become an active adult member of Memorial Lutheran Church.

Our New Confirmation Class will begin on Sunday, November 1, 2026, at 6:00 P.M. Classes will be held at the Parlor or Library. Contact Pastor Godfred or pick up a registration form from the table at the church entrance.

LETTER FROM THE BISHOP

A Call to be Trusted Messengers in this Election Season

August 19, 2026

Dear church,

In [an interview](#) after I was elected, I reflected on my experience as a mission developer, saying, “It is not about what you think you’re bringing into the community. It’s who you are in the community. The minute we showed that we cared is really when the community adopted us. People don’t care about what you know till they know that you care, and that was the biggest learning for me.”

Faithful. Informed. Engaged. This refrain captures a vision for Lutheran Christians living out their baptismal calling in the election season and beyond. Faith grounds us in God’s promises, and Christ sends us forth to love our neighbors and serve the world. Being informed equips us to address complex issues with wisdom, discernment and integrity. Being engaged reminds us that our participation in civic life is a key way we love and serve our neighbors. Our public witness is rooted in faith, guided by honesty and expressed through active citizenship.

ELCA ministries and leaders already play vital roles during election seasons. You register voters, provide rides to the polls, open your buildings as polling places and advocate for voting rights. Thank you! This year, I invite you to embrace an additional role to help strengthen our democracy: serving as trusted messengers in your communities.

Our church can be “all together in one place” as a powerful witness for truth, love of neighbor and honesty. False information remains a persistent challenge during elections. It can spread rapidly, undermining confidence in the electoral process and discouraging participation. Grounded in the commandment not to bear false witness, our churches and faith leaders are uniquely positioned to help address this challenge by seeking out and sharing accurate information and correcting misinformation when it arises. In a time when trust is often in short supply, serving as trusted sources of wisdom and guidance is a meaningful form of Christian witness. By helping our neighbors access accurate information and engage confidently in the democratic process, we live out our faith through responsible civic engagement and service to the common good.

“Healthy civic engagement depends on clear distinctions between fact and all forms of falsehood, ranging from partial misstatements to intentional disinformation to outright lies. ... Our church, then, encourages us all to ask, in every personal interaction and on social media, whether our words or those we repeat represent the best possible understanding of our neighbor.”

— ELCA social statement Faith and Civic Life: Seeking the Well-being of All (p. 62)

(continued from page 14)

The ELCA offers a [variety of resources](#) to help congregations and individuals be trusted messengers.

The new “[ELCA Election Engagement Toolkit](#)” provides guidance on topics that include serving as trusted messengers, engaging in election protection and modeling love of neighbor in polarized communities. (A [tool kit launch webinar](#) on Thursday, Sept. 3, at 12:30 p.m. Central time will provide an introduction to action steps and themes grounded in our Lutheran tradition.)

Through the “[ELCA Civic Engagement Guide](#),” you can access materials on voter education, voter registration, candidate forums, legal guidelines for congregations, voting rights and ways to encourage participation in local communities.

I invite you to take faithful steps this election year:

- Register to vote if you have not already done so and check your registration to make sure it is up-to-date. Use the “[Prepared to Vote Checklist](#)” to think through local voting requirements.
- Learn about the issues, ballot measures and candidates that will shape your community. Participate in respectful conversations.
- Check sources of information before sharing it in conversations or online.
- Pray for those who serve in public office, for election workers and for all who will exercise the privilege of voting. Create spaces for faithful, open conversation with voters, candidates or neighbors in your community.
- Encourage your family members, friends and neighbors to take part in the democratic process.

Be faithful, informed and engaged as disciples of Jesus seeking the well-being of our neighbors and the common good of the communities God has entrusted to our care. Every act of informed participation, every conversation marked by grace and every vote cast with prayerful discernment is an opportunity to bear witness to God’s love in the world.

In Christ,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Yehiel Curry', with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

The Rev. Yehiel Curry
Presiding Bishop
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

ARCHIVES



You don't want to miss it! On Sunday September 13, the Archives Committee invites you all to Memorial Lutheran Church's Archives Museum Dedication and Open House. Preceding it will be the Sunday church service followed by a community meal.

The Committee has been working for 3 long years to prepare a brand new office that's up to archival standards. We had to place 250 years of documents and artifacts and note their new location in our Finder's Book.

We invite you to peruse the documents and artifacts on display. We encourage you to inquire about the various interesting artifacts housed there as you may find many of them may have links to past family members and/or friends.

Memorial Lutheran's Women's group is beginning a new year of Fellowship, Bible study, and Service to others. The September meeting of Women of the ELCA will be held on Wednesday, September 16th at noon in Fellowship Hall. Bring your lunch, and hostess Linda Eves will provide dessert. Susan Lyons will lead the Bible Study. We will, also be discussing the service projects for the year.



The 3-part Fall Bible study is entitled "Bold Faith on an unexpected journey." September's study, "Encountering God in the wilderness" looks at Hagar, an enslaved woman who encounters God in the wilderness. When she believes all hope is lost, God sees her, hears her, and frees her. Check her out in Genesis 16.

Although we will be discussing service projects, September's offering usually goes to Lutheran Disaster Response, which has so many people needing their help this year.

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.

Peace,
Susan Lyons

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.

What is Hunger Action Month? Every September local communities unite for Hunger Action Month to fight food insecurity. This is not a food supply issue – we are surrounded by rich farmland. It is a crisis of access and opportunity. Between 1,000 to 1,300 local neighbors rely on SPO every week.

So many families are working hard and falling short. 50% of Franklin County full-time workers in need earn under \$24,000 per year. Over 1/3 of local pantry users have NO car and cannot access grocery stores. SPO has over 60 registered clients who lack. How can community members stand up against hunger? Volunteer – help sort, pack, or distribute food on Tuesdays. Donate – give online for buying power. \$1 = \$11 of fresh produce when purchased wholesale vs retail cost.

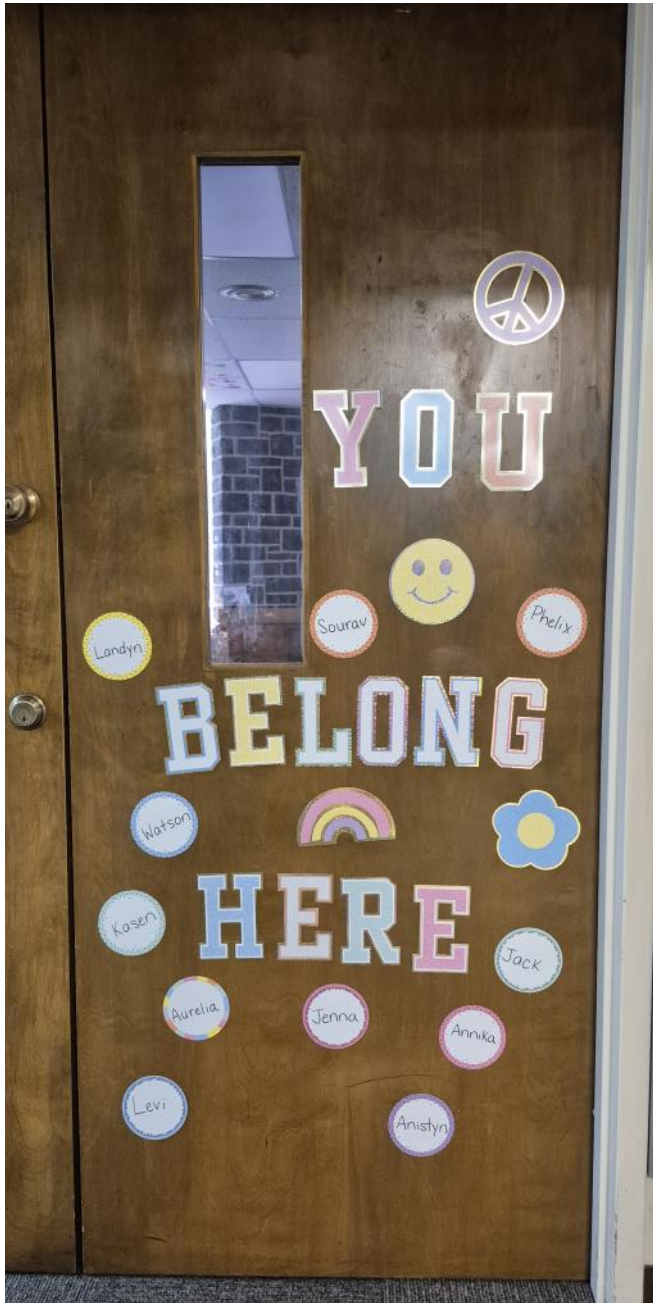
Better Together, featuring local agencies and activities, will be held in the Memorial parking lot on Saturday, September 19 from 10 to 2. Come enjoy food, fun, activities, and a petting zoo! FREE!



In June, SPO began the Client Choice option every Wednesday. Every week SPO participants who are 60 years old or over can come into SPO and select that work best for their individual needs. This approach reduces waste and provides neighbors with healthy food that fits their needs.

We appreciate the abundance of the growing season and all the healthy produce we are able to gather for our neighbors. As we celebrate Hunger Action Month, we hope to continue to be a healthy food choice and a resource referral point across Franklin and Cumberland counties. Come join us any Tuesday!

PRESCHOOL



**Please pray for our
Preschool Teachers,
Emily & Cindy,
as they welcome
the students to
Preschool and for
the students and
their families as
they begin a
new school year!**

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



The Finance Ministry is beginning to assemble the 2027 Spending Plan for Memorial. If you or a committee on which you serve anticipates congregational funding in 2027, please submit your needs AS SOON AS POSSIBLE in writing to the Finance Ministry. Written requests can be emailed to treasurer@memluth.org, written and placed into Bob Snyder's church office mailbox, or given to Amy Piper. Thanks you! Contact Bob Snyder with questions.

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.

