

THE PARISH VOICE

Newsletter of Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church of Milton, PA
"God's Work, Our Hands."

May, 2011

May 7 -3rd Annual Outreach Event

8 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Yard Sale, Food, & Bake Sale

Pulled pork sandwiches \$4.50, Fresh-cut French fries \$1.50, homemade applesauce \$.50 or the whole platter for \$6.00. Drinks \$.50

11 a.m. – 1 p.m. – Christian music entertainment by Michael Sweigard

All proceeds benefit local charities: Buffalo Valley Lutheran Village, Camp Mount Luther, Haven Ministries, Love INC, Milton & Turbot Township Fire Departments, Milton Food Bank, Milton Ministerium, Prison Ministry, Union County Meals On Wheels. Come on out for good food, fun & fellowship!

May 15 – Congregational Meeting

We will consider and vote on the Amendments to the Endowment portion of the Constitution. If you did not get a copy at Church and would like a color copy of the Amendments, please phone the Church Office (742-7473).

Mission Statement of Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church

We are called by God to follow Christ's example and teachings by worshipping, witnessing, learning, supporting one another, and reaching out to others.



Public Office Hours are Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. (*unless previously noted in the weekly bulletin or monthly newsletter*). Please feel free to stop by with bulletin announcements or monthly newsletter articles.

Deadlines:

Bulletin announcements are due in office by **Wednesday at 12:00 noon.**

Newsletter articles are due in office by the **10th of each month** (*unless otherwise noted on newsletter calendar or bulletin*).

Deadline for the next newsletter is May 10, with assembly on Thursday, May 26.

Please **e-mail secretary@christlutheranmpa.org** with any bulletin announcements or newsletter articles.

ADDRESS/EMAIL CHANGE/ADDITION

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone (____) _____
email _____

“Thank You...”

When the doctor told me two weeks ago that I have Bells Palsy (see www.bellspalsy.ws), I knew the fatigue I had been experiencing was not what should be. As I grow older, I expect new things to challenge my aging body, and with God’s grace, I knew everything would be okay, no matter what.

Bells palsy is a temporary condition, and that is wonderful news. The challenge for me, a modern-day woman who is a very busy pastor, is to slow down and allow God to bring about his gift of healing.

I want to thank all of you for being my arms and legs, eyes and ears, and certainly my “leaning posts.” I have leaned on each of you for prayer, for understanding, and in many ways to be the ones who take care of things I need your help to accomplish. I thank you for your cards and flowers, your words of concern and your prayers on my behalf. I thank you for being the community of faith and family that reminds me so much that God cares for us together – now and throughout our lives. Believe it or not, even when you shake your fingers of warning to care for myself, too – I hear very clearly the love and mercy of our Savior who wants rich and abundant life in our every day.

I have follow-up appointments with my doctor and my dentist (who also discovered a bad tooth in this journey of mine). As God works his hands and heart through these wonderful servants, I will also continue to celebrate the many, many ways God cares for us in each other.

So thank you – and bear with me on God’s healing journey. I will do my very best to take care of myself and return to the health God wants for me. I will also do my very best to work within the reasonable limits that requires, and lean on your love to carry me through the challenges. I am very, very, very thankful that you are including my needs and concerns in the work God has called you to do.

God bless you.

“Praise the Lord! I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart, in the company of the upright, in the congregation.”
--Psalms 111:1

Your partner in mission and ministry,

Pastor Pat 😊

Prayer Concerns

For the sick: Richard Bingaman; Bill Dotts; Larry Graby, Sr.; Michelle Konkoly; Joyce Long; Jeff Mensch; Jane McHenry; Aja Pyers; David “Pops” Quinn; Robert Raup; Dr. Elwood Reiner; Zelma Rule; Christine Scholl; Harrison Shirk; Deb Snyder; Lisa Snyder; Katie Thompson; Pr. Pat

For those with ongoing, extended illness: Faith Bacon; Leesa Bankert; Geraldine & Christopher Betts; Joan Bilger; Inez Bingaman; Ralph Bogle; Bruce Bolich; Emmaline Brown; Mike Butler; Jason & Ryan Caldwell; Evelyn Campbell; Karen Campbell; Joan Carpenter; Carol Conrad; Miles Crawford; Charles Danowsky; Rose Deaner; Travis Deitrick; Cy & Christine Eminhizer; Barbara & Dick Emley; Isobel Feehrer; Joann Ficks; Catherine Finn; Laurie Fisher; Rosella Follmer; Virginia Frantz; Marie Gray; Dana Habecker; Miya Hadcock; Sylvia Hoffman; Mary & Jim Hollinbaugh; Lisa Hughes; Lisa Huntington; Camille Kreisher; Keith Kurtz; Patricia Leonard; Sonya McDonald; Shirley Menges; Lois, Rachel, & Jessica McDonald; Jen Miskin; Terry Moll; Stephanie Neal; Lucia Nolan; Andrew Ostrowsky; Hunter Page; Agnes Rathfon; Terry Rathfon; Joy Reaser; Katie Richards; Ned Roush; Lori Smith; Shirley Smith; Mackenzie Snyder; Florence Stahlnecker; Mary Steeley; Dorothy Stevens; Hubert Stouffer; Kisha Suarez; George & Tresha Sudol; Allen Sullender; Janet Swisher; Terry Valiquette; George Van Riper; Tim Walsh, Jr.; Percy Webb; Paul Wiles; Sherry Yingling; Lois



For those in sorrow: All who have lost loved ones; those in our community and the world who are recovering from fires and natural disasters

For those anticipating and recovering from surgery:

Florence Berry; Doug Erickson; Kayce Hill; Charlene Hodge; Barbara Johnson; Joe Korizno; Martha Reese; Bill Scott; Cheyanne Snyder; Ray & Susan Trate; John Travers; Todd Whitmyer; Darlas Yost; Deb

For those adjusting to life changes: All those affected by political upheavals in eastern Nations

For those struggling with personal problems: Sue Bickel & family; Nicholas Machusak; Brandon Rathfon; Gary Wilson

For the imprisoned

For the homebound: Phyllis Albertson; Caroline Bobb; Lucille Bruss; Mary Burns; Edith Coup; Betty Dotts; Gladys Fisher; Bessie Hartzel; Merritt & Doris Heffelfinger; Paul Heimbach; Margaret Kline; Tom Kline; Mary Kathryn Leiby; Elva Mazeall; Dix & Pauline Reitz; Marguarite Ruth; Camille Schillig; Walter Scholl; Connie Sholly; Marie Springer; Leah Walker; Kenneth Webb; Nancy Weikel

For those serving in the military: Amy Brown; Joshua Brown; Christopher DePellegrin; Matthew Dorman; Justin Gonzales; Gabriel Gonzales; Larry Graby, Jr.; Dan Moll; Anthony Nudson; Ken Ring; Glenn Snyder; Eric Strobeck

For leaders, guides, students, and workers: Pr. Pat; Pr. Keith; Sunday School & Bible Buddies teachers; Viking & Marissa Dietrich, missionaries; Bishop Robert Driesen & Synod Staff; Bishop Mark Hanson & ELCA Staff

For those needing daily strength: Mary Cromis; Steve Ishler family; Dale Kriner & family; Rebecca Ulmer; Stephen & family

For our partners who serve with us in Appalachia: With grateful hearts we offer thanks for the adequate resources ELCMA enjoys that allow us to implement the new long-range ministry plan, and we ask for the blessing of wisdom to follow Christ's lead and not our own egos.



More prayers needed... These are *member families* we have prayed for in Church since last issue: Brad & Deb Bartlett; Steve, Michelle, Kristie Ishler & Dan Hendershot; Greg, Kelly, Rachel, & Ryan Solomon; James, Brenda, & Alissa Bartlett; Mae Jones; Todd Twist; Travis, Stacey, Hailey, Kaila, & Norah Bartlett; Sharon Karchner; Rodney, Carol, & Cory Templin; Rodney Bastian; Mae Keefer; Kimber Williams; Russ & Linda Bastian; Trish Keister, Sam Long, Tatum, & Ana; Ashley, David, & Evelyn Yost

Celebrations...

It is with great joy that we received Kaila Ann Bartlett and Norah Lynn Bartlett into the family of Christ's Church through Holy Baptism. Kaila and Norah were baptized on Easter Sunday, April 24. We rejoice with them and their family – Travis and Stacey Bartlett and sister, Hailey; grandparents, Brad and Deb Bartlett; and great-grandmother, Betty Morgan.

We were also blessed on Easter Sunday to receive Victor and Sharon Randolph into membership at Christ Church. Vic and Sharon live in West Milton and come to us from the Methodist and Episcopal churches. Sharon is a counselor and Vic is a physician in Lewisburg. (You can also catch Sharon every Thursday morning in the parlor leading our knitting group.) It is with great joy that we share in God's mission with Vic and Sharon in our church family! Welcome, welcome!

Lord, with great joy you call your children into your kingdom. Gather us all around your throne, offering ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. May the words and deeds we offer in your name bring many more to know the blessings of living in you! Amen.



A Special
THANK YOU



- To all who helped with the organization, preparation, and sale of the first batch of Easter Eggs. \$412 will be contributed to the MS Walk!
- To all who helped with the organization, preparation, and sale of the hoagies. The proceeds will go to Relay For Life - \$170!
- To Brett Hosterman, for your inspirational worship liturgy that you shared with us during the season of Lent. God bless your talents and your calling!
- To all who offered your time, talents, and treasures toward our May outreach event in the pavilion. Watch soon for a report on the gifts we raised to help God's children in our community!

Thank You Notes



Thank you so very much for your continued support and dedication to the American Red Cross blood drives. We value and appreciate your willingness to open your doors to welcome your community into your facility in order to help save lives. Your partnership with us is so vital in helping to save countless lives. We cannot do what we do without caring and loving people such as YOU!

- Sue Norton, Red Cross

Thank you to all our friends in Christ for your many prayers, concerns, and cards at the time of my mother's death. She, Arla R. Showers, lived a long and blessed 97 years. Peace be with each of you.

- Darlas & Lee Yost & families

Worship Attendance Records

<u>Week of</u>	<u>Sun.</u>	<u>Wed.</u>	<u>Other Services</u>	<u>Total</u>
March 6	68			68
March 9 (Ash Wed.)	21	4 p.m.	28 – 7 p.m.	49
March 13	56	9		65
March 20	59	5		64
March 27	56	10	1 private comm..	67

Remember the Sabbath Day, to keep it holy...

Loose Cash Offerings in Worship & Special Appeals Envelopes

Relay for Life & Upper Susquehanna Synod

(envelope provided with newsletter)

Please make checks payable to "Christ Lutheran Church."

Be a cheerful giver!

Please give generously to help others!!!



Tithes and offerings

Weekly Giving Per Envelope March, 2011

<u># Envelopes</u>	<u>Amount Given Each Week</u>
3	\$100.01 or more
1	70.01 – 100.00
7	50.01 – 70.00
6	40.01 - 50.00
10	30.01 - 40.00
12	20.01 - 30.00
10	15.01 - 20.00
5	10.01 - 15.00
13	5.01 - 10.00
27	.01 - 5.00
37	0

From Your Finance Leaders...

No report this month...check next month's Newsletter for the update.

Thank you for all you do to support the ministry God calls us to do at Christ Church!

Bible Study Opportunities



- Thursdays, 2 p.m., in the parlor – studying the book of Genesis, using Book of Faith resources
- Sunday School for all ages – Every Sunday @ 9 a.m. thru the end of May
- Our Sunday Bible Study and our Bible Buddies youth gatherings will

take a break for the summer. Be sure to join us again next Fall!

- Gerasene Team ministry – We will meet again on Sun., May 15, to discuss an idea for a summer project for those in need. Come join us that morning at 9 a.m. in the parlor!

Help us help others!

- Campbell's Soup labels and Labels for Education for the Navajo Lutheran Mission project
- Can tabs for Ronald McDonald House
- Pennies for Social Ministry projects
- Caps for Creation

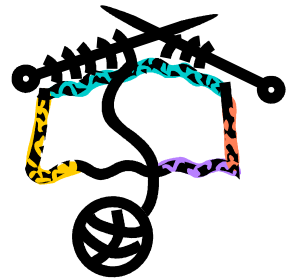


Church Website & Facebook

Go to **www.christlutheranmpa.org** or **www.facebook.com** and search for “Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church” for up-to-date Church information! Email celcnetwork@christlutheranmpa.org (James Bartlett) to have events posted on Facebook or post a status/comment on the page. For postings/ideas/suggestions regarding the website, contact Donna Spear, Webmaster, at speardonna@gmail.com.

Knitting Group

If you knit, or would like to learn, or you crochet, needlepoint, etc., come to Christ Church on Thursdays, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., for a time of fun and fellowship.





Please read the inserts in your Newsletter as they pertain to Graduate & Veteran Recognitions and the Geranium orders for Pentecost. There are deadlines for submitting this information listed on the forms.

The next newsletter will be a combined June/July edition, with the deadline for submitting information being May 10.

Thinking about giving your time to one of our ministries here at Christ Church?

Join the Spiritual Growth Ministry that works together to plan our worship, Christian education, Witnessing, and Social Ministry needs AND/OR join the Stewardship Ministry that works together to plan our Finance, Property, Endowment, and Staff Support ministry.

We are currently in the process of re-thinking how we gather and serve together to do God's work at Christ Church. YOUR ideas, and YOUR presence is a great gift you could offer in either of these ministry groups.

Spiritual Growth meets on the 4th Monday of the month in the parlor; and Stewardship meets on the 4th Tuesday – same place. Come, bring the talents God has given you to share!!

Special thanks...

To our *voting members to Synod Assembly this year*: Pastor Pat, James Bartlett, Nancy Mensch, with alternates Ed Coup and Rose Deaner. Our Synod Assembly will take place June 17 and 18 at Susquehanna University. Please pray for God's direction and love as we gather as Synod brothers and sisters to plan our ministry for the next year.

Little Needs...Little Things...Little Ways You Can Help

The church needs these items on a regular basis. If you can provide any of them, THANK YOU!

- Paper plates, cups, napkins, plastic silverware
- Boxes of tissues
- Hand sanitizers
- Dishwashing soap for kitchen & sacristy

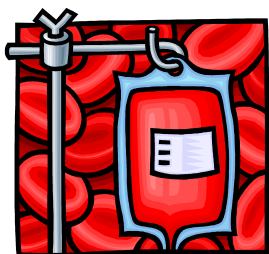


HandUP Foundation

Food Bank – The Milton Food Bank is collecting *pasta* for the month of *May*. Please place your donations in the grocery cart in the narthex.



New hours: Effective May 4, the Food Bank will be open **only** the 1st and 2nd Wednesday of the month from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m., and on the 3rd Wednesday from 9 a.m. – 12 noon. It will be closed all other Wednesdays. Qualified recipients are still eligible to receive their food allotment once per month. Questions, call 742-3000.



Red Cross

Sandwich Sale
May 12

Watch for sign-up sheet in narthex.

Christ Lutheran is sponsoring the Bloodmobile on Wed., June 1st. *Food items needed are sandwich spreads and cookies. Help is needed from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. A sign-up sheet will be on the table in the narthex soon. See Anna Mae Harpster if you can donate food or help (742-9540).*

Northern Lights Upcoming Events

- May 16 – 7 p.m. – Northern Lights Planning Meeting at Trinity Lutheran, Milton. Discussion will include Chiz Ryder performance on July 31, email update for NL Upcoming Events, Summer picnic, 2010 National Youth Gathering, 2010 ELCMA Assembly hosted by Holy Spirit, and participation as a group in the Transformation Ministry process. If you would like to attend this meeting, call the Church Office (742-7473).

- July 31 - Northern Lights Picnic and Concert at Christ Church. Covered dish picnic will start at noon with a concert by Chiz Ryder to follow @ 1 p.m. More details to come!

Sharing of Our Lutheran Identity

The congregations of the Buffalo Valley Conference will hold a celebration event on Sunday, May 15, 4-7 p.m., at Camp Mt. Luther, outdoors adjacent to the Dining Hall (rain location: inside Dining Hall). Bring your own picnic dinner and a blanket and/or chairs. Beverages provided by Camp Mount Luther.

The event includes music by Buffalo Valley praise teams – Faith + Fusion from Christ's Evangelical, Lewisburg; My Father's House Band from United in Christ, West Milton; and Resonate from First Lutheran Church, Mifflinburg.

There will be appearances by Martin & Katie Luther. Closing worship will be led by Bishop Robert Driesen. Games organized by Camp Mount Luther Staff.

Displays of Ministry Activities are desired. Contact Pastor Bill Henderson at 524-0745 or Pastor Dan May at 522-9902.

Multi-Cultural Festival Praise and Worship Service

This service is sponsored by the Milton Ministerium and will be held at First Baptist Church on Sunday, May 15, 6 p.m. Watch the Standard Journal for a feature story in the near future.

Life After Loss

Evan Hospital is offering a six-week educational bereavement group, "Life After Loss," on Wednesdays, May 11-June 15, 6-8 p.m., in the Apple Conference Rooms. Fee is \$20 (scholarships available upon request). This program will help participants learn coping techniques to deal with grief and loss. Attendance at all six classes is strongly encouraged and recommended. Anyone age 18 or older who has experienced the loss of a loved one is invited to attend. It is recommended that your loss be longer than six months. To register, call Hospice at 522-2955.

Don't miss these worship opportunities in June:

- Sunday, June 12 – the Day of Pentecost: We will celebrate the confirmation of Curtis Van Schneider, Julia Suzanne Spear, Rachael Marie Spear, and Blake Anthony Wargo
- Sunday, June 19 – the celebration of our God's Holy Name: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit – on the Sunday of the Holy Trinity
- Sunday, June 26 – the celebration of our children – Children's Day!
- All 3 services will be held at the usual Sunday morning time – 10:30 a.m.

Summer Worship Opportunities...

Beginning Sunday, June 5, our joint worship with our brothers and sisters at Trinity Lutheran Church (across the street from CVS, downtown Milton) will begin.

You will have the opportunity to worship at Trinity at 8:30 a.m. OR at Christ at 10:30 a.m.

We will share the gifts of both our pastors and organists through June, July, and August.



Summer Worship Schedule

As we think about the changing of the seasons to the long, green, growing-in-faith Season after Pentecost, let us learn and worship together with our sister church in Milton.

The Wednesday worship service at 4 p.m. will continue throughout the summer. That week's worship will include a look at the birds, plants, and flowers of the Bible.

Don't forget to include worship and learning in your summer of FINALLY getting outdoors!!

Vacation Bible School

Hey kids!! Vacation Bible School is coming the end of June! Join us this year for God's Big Jungle Adventure! Classes will be held Sunday through Thursday evenings. Watch your bulletin for dates and more information!



Upper Susquehanna Synod News

Summer Camp (Mount Luther) information is available by calling the Camp Office at 922-1587 or on their website, www.campmountluther.org.

The Bishop's Open Golf Tournament is set for May 16, beginning at 11:30 a.m., at the Susquehanna Valley Country Club in Shamokin Dam. The tournament benefits Camp Mount Luther and the camp's annual fund. Informational brochures are available in the Church narthex and on the camp's website at www.campmountluther.org. Our congregation is a blessed sponsor of one of the holes for this tournament!

Camp Mt. Luther Spring Work Day, Saturday, May 21, 8 a.m. – 1 p.m. There will be plenty to do, and everyone in the family can help! Please bring supplies to do cleaning, mulching, raking, and light construction projects such as step ladders, buckets, etc. A light lunch will be served. RSVP by May 16 if staying for lunch. Some projects are being funded by individual chapters of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans.

Copies of USS ARK (Upper Susquehanna synod news) and CAMEL TRACKS (Camp Mt. Luther news) are available in the narthex. Help yourself!

Healthy Communication Tips



In these days of super-speed schedules, we often “sound-bite” our conversations as we run toward this task or another, even passing family members on the run....

Try this month’s tip for healthy communication!

Suppose you hear this (or something similar) when you are out doing shopping in the community:

- “Did you hear about the horrible things they are doing in the church down the street? Someone told me the people who go there have to sign a contract to give so much money, so much time, and to vow to come to worship every Sunday. I’m surely glad MY church doesn’t do that!”

How would you respond?

- a. My making your own vow to NEVER attend that church.
- b. To tell your next door neighbor the same story – assuring him or her that your church is never that strict.
- c. To give thanks for your brothers and sisters in that church and do what you can to discourage negative talk about their ministry.

- d. To use the opportunity to ponder what you give to your church and pray for God's guidance.
- e. To add this church's ministry to your prayer life that week.
- f. To remember God's calling to avoid idle gossip.

It can be tempting to believe negative things you hear about our friends and family in the Christian faith. Try your best to lift them up as you would pray they would lift up your congregation. Jesus urges us to care for one another; not tear one another down. Speak words of love about the family of faith!

Happy Communicating!!!

Bible Trivia



BIBLE TRIVIA

Where does scripture encourage us to do this: “Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven us”?

Answer on Page 20.

ELCA : Did You Know?

Pakistan – Meet Rizvan

It was a wet summer evening, and 10-year-old Rizvan was playing with his younger sisters and brothers in the one-room house they shared with their



parents. It had been raining nonstop for two days. Suddenly, a wall of raging water slammed through the front wall of the house. As their home filled with water, his parents used gardening tools to break through the back wall—just before the house was swept away by the flood.

The floods were the worst in living memory—a fifth of the country of Pakistan was under water. Rizvan, his family and millions of others were left with nothing but the clothes on their backs.

Rizvan was put in charge of the household when his father left to look for work. When the family's food ran low and Rizvan didn't know what to do, an emergency food package of wheat flour, lentils, rice, tea leaves, sugar and cooking oil helped keep the family going—made possible by your gifts to ELCA Disaster Response. In addition to providing emergency food, your gifts to ELCA Disaster Response are supplying clean water, shelter and health care to those with the greatest need.

Your gifts to ELCA Disaster Response, designated for Pakistan, will be used entirely—100 percent—for this response. In November 2010, Hurricane Tomas caused further destruction in Haiti. The deadly waterborne disease of cholera had already appeared in one area of the country, and the storm's floodwaters helped it spread.

With the help of ELCA Disaster Response Funds, the Lutheran World Federation and the Lutheran Church of Haiti are working hard to contain the outbreak, teaching people about preventive measures and distributing necessary supplies. The Lutheran World Federation has also put doctors and nurses to work testing and treating those who are ill.

Thank you for supporting God's needy ones!



BIBLE TRIVIA

Bible Trivia Answer: Ephesians 4:32 (You may even remember a children's song that you learned in Sunday School about this verse!)



**Anniversaries
this Month**

Steven & Michelle Ishler	5/7	17 years
Robert & Stephanie Byers	5/12	21 years
Guy & Robin Mensch	5/13	33 years
Larry & Connie Mensch	5/16	52 years
Harold & Stella Webb	5/16	6 years
Ruth & Martin Trinidad	5/26	10 years



**Birthdays
This Month**

James Heffelfinger	5/1
Alexa Mitchell	5/1
Lois Berger	5/2
Evelyn O'Connell	5/5
Gabe Longenberger	5/5
Laura Beck	5/6
Kim Mitch	5/6
Brian Herr	5/11
Ida Shuck	5/15
Rusty Brouse	5/19
Julia Spear	5/19
Shelly Snyder	5/21
Guy Mensch	5/23
Roger Watts	5/25
Kenneth Webb	5/25

Mae Jones	5/28
Curtis Schneider	5/29
Brody Gray	5/30
Ida Snyder	5/30

(If we missed your birthday, call the Church Office
and let us know!)

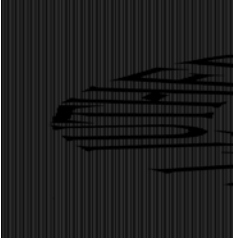
*Happy
Mother's*



Day

(May 8)

**CHRIST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
1125 MAHONING STREET, MILTON, PA 17847**



**NON PROFIT
ORG.
PRESORTED
STANDARD
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Milton, PA
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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

**Public Office Hours: Monday thru Friday 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
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Secretary E-mail: secretary@christlutheranmpa.org
Church Website: www.christlutheranmpa.org**

Staff:

**The Rev. Patricia A. T. Pittsnogle, Pastor
Lorei Comerer, Church Office Manager
Donna Spear, Webmaster
Nancy Walters, Director of Church Music
Brett Hosterman, Organist
Rose Deaner, Treasurer
Ruth Greenly, Financial Secretary
Rich Olsen, Custodian
Bob Greenly, Groundskeeper**