

Welcome Newcomers!

We hope you sense God's presence and enjoy your time of worship with us today. We have a staffed nursery, Children's Church for ages 3-5th grade, which is dismissed during the worship service, and Sunday school for all ages. If this is your first time at CMF, please stop by a Welcome Table in the lobby. We would love to connect with you! Also, please take time to sign in to the red attendance reg-

Contact Us

Community Mennonite Fellowship

2985 Broadway Road, Milton, PA 17847
570-742-7315, www.cmfmilton.org



Sunday worship service: 9:15 AM Sunday school: 10:45 AM

Our church office is open

| | |
|--|---|
| Timothy Darling (Lead Pastor) tim@cmfmilton.org | Jim Hostetter (Pastor of Youth and Young Adults) jim@cmfmilton.org |
| Amy Goodwin (Children's Ministry) amy@cmfmilton.org | Nigel Fulmore-Smith (Spiritual Family & Discipleship Pastor) nigel@cmfmilton.org |
| Erv Blank (Finance) finance@cmfmilton.org | Tammy Trate (Administrative Assistant) office@cmfmilton.org |

To sign up for *Remind* messages, text the following to 81010:



Children's Ministry: text "@cmfkidmin"
Youth Ministry: text "@cmfparents"

Looking Ahead

| | |
|--------------|---|
| December 24 | Christmas Eve Service |
| Dec 24-26 | Church Office Closed |
| Dec 31-Jan 1 | Church Office Closed |
| January 19 | Super Sunday School Begins! |
| January 25 | How to Talk to Your Kids About Sex Workshop |
| February 2 | Fellowship Meal |

"Fear Not: Shepherds—The Announcement,"

based on Luke 2:8-21

.....

Do you believe that you or someone you know has seen an angel? What was the experience like?

What moments were you most certain you knew God's will and what you should do?

How do you incorporate the coming of Jesus into your Christmastime conversations?



December 22, 2024



The Angel appearing to the Shepherds By Philip James de Loutherbourg (circa 1760)

**Together,
pressing in toward Christ;**





Would you like to be prayed for today? After the sermon, an elder at the front of the auditorium will anoint you with oil and pray for your needs. We encourage you to partake of this special time of prayer.

We wish you the blessings of Christmas: peace, joy, hope, and love in Jesus. May the wonder of His coming fill your hearts and days with all the good only He can bring.

Today, there will be no Children's Church or Sunday school, to allow families to worship and celebrate the birth of our Savior together.

Surveys are due today! Please fill out the short survey available through the QR code here, or distributed via email and a recent CMF Remind. Paper copies are also available by the ballot box in the lobby. Please return completed paper surveys to Josh Blank's mailbox **today**. Thank you!



A Christmas Eve Candlelight Service will be held at CMF this Tuesday, **December 24, at 6:30 PM.** Invite family, friends, and loved ones to celebrate the birth of our Savior with us. We will sing Christmas carols, light candles, and remember the reason for the season! Plan to stay after the service a while and enjoy cookies, hot chocolate, and fellowship!

2025 Offering envelopes are in church mailboxes. The envelopes are for your convenience to keep giving confidential and to make it easier to track tax receipts. If you received envelopes but don't want them, please return to Erv Blank's church mailbox. If you did not receive envelopes but want them, please contact Erv at finance@cmfmilton.org.

A fishing rod building class will begin in the New Year. If interested, contact Larry Seibert, at 570-850-8946, **by Tuesday, December 24**, so supplies and components can be ordered in time to start in January.

Can you help? Women at Risk International is a Christian ministry that helps abused women learn a trade. They are in need of beads for making jewelry. If you can help by donating beads, money for beads, or bead-making equipment, please get them to Clorice Summers **before Christmas**. Learn more at warinternational.org.

Church offices will be closed December 24-26, and January 1-2. If you have a pastoral emergency during this time, please contact an elder: Ken Bergey, Norman Hoy, Barry Nolt, Chris Long, or Rod Yoder; or Pastoral Care Directors: Pamela Jablonski or Reba Yoder.

Ballots for the 2025 Budget were recently distributed to members' mailboxes. Please return ballots **by next Sunday, December 29**. See Erv Blank or Josh Blank with any questions.

Spiritual Gifts: In the New Year, Pastor Tim will lead a small group exploring Spiritual Gifts. We want to make the opportunity to participate available to a few more families. We will arrange the date and time of our first gathering in conversation with participants to meet the needs of the group. If you'd like to be involved, please call or drop an email to the church office **this week**.

Super Seniors: On Thursday, **January 16, at 12 noon**, Super Seniors will have a light lunch at CMF, followed by a hymn sing. Please sign up so we know how much food to prepare. A donation basket will be set out to offset the costs involved. Contact Ruth Robenolt, Donna Blank, or Reba Yoder with any questions.

Super Sunday School is coming back! From **January 19-Feb 23**, join one of six **amazing** classes that will help you grow spiritually, emotionally, and in community! A separate Youth Sunday School will not happen during this session because youth are invited and encouraged to be part of this opportunity. **Please sign up in the lobby.** For questions, please call Nigel Fulmore-Smith.

How to Talk to Your Kids About Sex Workshop: LaVonne Yoder will lead a workshop on talking to your children about sex on **January 25, from 10:00 AM-1:00 PM**, in Room 201/202. **Child-care will be provided.** Please sign up in the lobby!

Last Week's Offering: \$13,866
Last Week's Attendance: CMF Worship: 307 (256 in person, 51 online)
Sunday school: 141



"'Thanks!' to the carolers who braved the frigid weather to come and bring holiday cheer. The gift basket was lovely." ~Ron Robenolt

"We enjoyed the CMF Christmas Carolers and the goodie bag, thanks! Wishing you all a BLESSED Christmas." ~Ray & Martha Zimmerman

"Thank you for the carolers and the fruit basket. I appreciate your friendship and visits while I'm here at Riverview Manor." ~Evelyn Landis



Children's Ministry

Schedule change: Today, we will not have Children's Church, CC BOOM, or Sunday school. Families can sit together and enjoy a short story by Pastor Tim from the perspective of a shepherd boy.

A Big "Thank You!" to the many who helped with last Sunday's Christmas program and to our amazing kids who participated!

To receive Children's Ministry Remind messages, text "@cmfkidmin" to 81010.

Youth Ministry

"Embrace and Pursue Christ"

Ignite* (Grades 6-8) and C4* (Grades 9-12):

Wednesday Night Youth: This Wednesday is Christmas, so NO Youth this week.

Belize 2025 Mission Trip: C4 students interested in the Belize Mission Trip should get their paper application to Jim Hostetter very soon. Connect with Jim by early January if not signed up yet.

C4 Lock-In: Activities all day and stay up late at night. It's the Christmas Break C4 Lock-In, **December 29-30**.

Ignite "Lock-In": So much fun and activity for one day! First, it's games, then it's pizza, then we jump in white vans and drive away to an undisclosed location to play Bubble Ball! (Ok, ok we head to CWC!), then back to CMF for more refreshments and some games. **January 3**. Event ends at 11:00 PM.

See youth event details at:
<https://newsletter.dymapps.com/featured/2142>

Parents: Not getting REMIND messages?
Text @cmfparents to the number 81010.



CONNECT! Young Adults

Wednesday Small Group: Connect with others on **Wednesdays, at 6:45 PM, in Room 305**. See Max Kennel or Jim Hostetter to learn more.

Annual Young Adult Reunion: Catch up with old friends and connect with new ones. Anyone around over break is invited to the Young Adult celebration on **December 23, at 7:00 PM**, in the Refuge.

Passion 2025: Fifteen of our Young Adults will head to Atlanta, GA, **January 5-8** to attend the Passion Conference. Please lift this trip up in prayer. The theme, "Leading The Way," will focus on worship, teaching, and community for Young Adults.