OCTOBER 25, 2026 **11:00 AM WORSHIP**

REFORMATION SUNDAY

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✦ *Please make sure your cell phones are turned off during worship so that you can fast from texting and other distractions. Also, please refrain from bringing food and drink into the sanctuary.*

✦ *We hope there are enough bulletins for everyone who comes to worship, but in case we run out, they are accessible online.*

✦ *For responsive readings, the lighter text is the leader, and the bolder text is the congregation.*

WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Pastor Jessica

PRELUDE

Please use this time for silent meditation to center your hearts for worship.

*** CALL TO WORSHIP (READ RESPONSIVELY)**

In times of sorrow, hunger, and uncertainty, .

God meets us on the road.

Across boundaries, borders and foreign lands, .

God knits us together in faithful community!

We hear the ancient vow of companioning grace:

"Where you go, I will go; your people shall be my people and your God my God.

Come, let us worship the God of steadfast love and journeying grace!

Discipleship Ministries of the United Methodist Church

*** OPENING PRAYER (UNISON)**

God of steadfast companionship, you walk beside us when our hands are empty and our roads are long. As Ruth journeyed with Naomi into an unknown land, accompany us into the places of vulnerability and grace.

Open our hearts to receive the stranger, open our eyes to recognize your mercy along the margins, and bind us together in love that does not turn back. In your holy name we pray. Amen.

*** OPENING HYMN** *Abide With Me* #700 UMH

INVITATION TOWARD GIVING AND PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Loving God, when roads are uncertain and the future feels empty, you remain our steady home.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ECCHO: Milton UMC was among the first churches that joined together in 1981 to form Eastern Cabell County Humanities Organization, Inc. For the past 45 years, our church has supported this ministry, which provides food and clothing to those in need (Matthew 25:35-37). Please consider making a contribution of $45 to celebrate this milestone.

BIBLE STUDY: Pastor Jessica has begun a five-week bible study on Tuesdays at 11:00 AM. Plan now to attend Lamp and Light. Your church family would love to see you!

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP: The next meeting of the support group will be on Monday, November 2, at 1:30 PM, and they will continue to meet on the first and third Monday of each month.

COMFORT MINISTRY: The Comfort Ministry will meet on Wednesdays in October and November, and their next meeting will be on Wednesday, November 3rd, at 10:30 AM.

DEVOTIONALS: There are a few copies of *Our Daily Bread* for September, October, and November. Please pick up your copy today. You will find them on the information table in Friendship Hall.

UNDIE SUNDAYS: Please bring new packages of socks, undies, and/or T-shirts in October. We will collect them every Sunday that we meet at Milton UMC in October.

Remember throughout the week to serve God! Bring a smile to a stranger, hold the door for someone, or help a friend.

All these bring God joy!

Calendar for the Week Beginning October 25

TODAY

Sunday Worship . . . . . 11:00 AM

TUESDAY

Bible Study . . . . . 11:00 AM

Exercise Class . . . . . 7:00 PM

THURSDAY

T.O.P.S. . . . . 4:00—5:00 PM

Exercise Class . . . . . 7:00 PM

NEXT SUNDAY: ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

Sunday Worship . . . . . 11:00 AM

LOOKING AHEAD

All Saints Sunday is November 1

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK

SUNDAY WORSHIP. 30

Please check the prayer concerns, and let us know of those who need to be added or removed.

CONTINUING PRAYER CONCERNS

Recently added names are in Italics.

Our elected officials; Sunday school (children, youth, & teachers); military personnel; churches & ministers; missionaries; Bishop Debra Wallace-Padgett; DS Lauren Godwin; Pastor Jessica; Pastor Annette; 130th Unit of WV Air Nat'l Guard; and

Alex S.	Chris W.	Neal M.
Alice	Daniel R.	Patrick
Allison	David R.	Paul B.
Arthur T.	Debbie R.	Paul G.
Avery	Diane B.	Robert G.
Barbara	Emory H.	Rose
Becky C.	Jenny B.	Sandy B.
Ben H.	Joan G.	Stephanie J.
Betty S.	John B.	Steven L.
Bill Q.	John M.	Terry B.
Brenda H.	Lisa H.	Tim C.
Brenda T.	Lorin A.	Tim S.
Carol W.	Mary M.	Tina B.
Cathy W.	Mike B.	Trey B.
Charlene	Mike H.	Wanda S.
Cheryl	*Mike T.*	

In a world of shifting ground and bitter loss, you give us the courage to choose love, loyalty, and commitment. As we offer our tithes and gifts of you today, we ask that you bless them and stretch them.

May they provide shelter to the vulnerable, welcome to the stranger, and daily bread to those in need. Teach us to walk faithfully with one another, holding fast to your grace just as Ruth held fast to Naomi. We dedicate these gifts — and ourselves — to your service. In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen.

[If you wish to support Milton United Methodist Church with your tithes and gifts, please mail them to MUMC, 1007 Church Street, Milton, WV 25541. If available, you can also give through your bank. If you wish to make a gift today, there are offering plates at the doors of the sanctuary.]

Offertory

God Sightings and Prayer Time

The Lord's Prayer (Unison)

Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. AMEN.

Scripture Ruth 1:1-18

* **Hymn** *Be Thou My Vision* #451 UMH

Message Theme Pastor Annette

From Emptiness To Hope

* **Closing Hymn** *Blest Be The Tie That Binds* #557 UMH

(You are welcome to use this time for prayer and reflection at the altar rail or in your seat.)

* **Benediction** Pastor Jessica

* **Postlude**

* You may stand if you wish.

Welcome: *Thank you for joining us for worship today! If you are visiting for the first time, please fill out a yellow card that is in the pew rack and place it in the offering plate.*

We hope that you will find our church to be a place where you feel welcome and experience the presence of God in a powerful way.

The new vision statement for the United Methodist Church: The United Methodist Church forms disciples of Jesus Christ who, empowered by the Holy Spirit, love boldly, serve joyfully, and lead courageously in local communities and worldwide connections.

Welcome Project: Milton UM Church has engaged with a new outreach ministry. Each month, persons who move into our area will receive a professionally designed postcard inviting them to visit us at MUMC. We ask you to pray that this outreach program will have a positive impact on our church's future and on the lives of those we are inviting to join us. Presently, we encourage you to pray fervently for those who received a postcard in August that they will settle in well, find joy in their new homes, and feel inclined to worship with us. We also encourage you to be a welcoming person when people worship here. Smile in welcome, but don't be an overly zealous greeter.

Sermon Notes

MILTON UMC

1007 Church Street
Milton, West Virginia 25541
Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors

Mission Statement
The mission of Milton United Methodist Church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world by reflecting God's love through faith, worship, and service so others may discover God's grace.

From Emptiness to Hope

October 25, 2026

REFORMATION SUNDAY

Milton/Bethesda Charge

Reverend Jessica Kayembe, Lead Pastor

Reverend Annette Carper, Associate Pastor

Ministers: Every Person in the Congregation

Song Leader: Robert Jackson **Accompanist**: Melody Bias

Administrative Secretary: Neera Doss-Burner **Office Phone**: 304-743-6461

Church Email: miltonunited@frontier.com **Church Website**: http://miltonwvumc.org

Facebook: mumcwv

Pastor Jessica's Email: jessicakayembe4@gmail.com **Pastor Jessica's Cell**: 973-449-1702

Pastor Annette's Email: pastorannette13@gmail.com **Pastor Annette's Cell**: 304-377-1079