



The CULC Messenger God's Work, Our Actions

> May My Prayers to You, D God, Begin from a place of Thanksgiving, recognizing Your countless Gifts.

Join us for Worship - Sundays at 9:30 a.m. Sunday School - September through May 1st & 3rd Sundays @ 10:45 a.m.

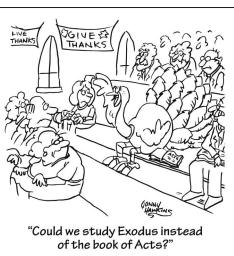


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In This Issue:

Monthly Member Message4-5Council Highlights6Prayer List7
Prayor List 7
Birthdays / Anniversaries 8
Annual Budget Meeting/ 10 Special Congregational Mtg.
Serving our Community 11
November Calendar 12-13
Social Ministry 14
WELCA 16
Annual Christmas Meal 17



Status of Accounts as of September 30

Total amount in checking account: \$128,891.01. Amount needed in offerings <u>per month</u> to meet our 2023 Annual Budget of \$195,263.89 is \$16,271.99. Income for September was \$8,188.58. Expenses for September were \$9,898.72. resulting in a net loss of \$1,710.14. Benevolence for September was \$960.00.



CHURCH COUNCIL 2023

	Phone	Term Expires
Kay Berner	570-875-1035	Feb. 2026
President		
Dennis Wolfe	570-875-9085	Feb. 2024
Vice President		
Morgen Sweitzer	570-682-8240	Feb. 2026
Secretary		
Robert Carl	570-590-7281	Feb. 2025
Ken Dengler	570-933-5144	Feb. 2025
Debra Price	570-205-6241	Feb. 2024
Darlene Stank	570-875-1644	Feb. 2025
Robert Sweinhart	570-682-3697	Feb. 2026
Jacob Tice	570-875-2681	Feb. 2024

Youth Representative - Vacant

DESIGNATED PASTOR

Rev. Melinda Heppe 570-205-7450

STAFF

Parish AdministratorDebbie Hall570-875-1591office@christsunited.org570-789-9722Office Hours: Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 8:00 am- 4:00 pm

Director of Music Treasurer Indoor Custodian Outdoor Custodian Financial Secretary Jamie Johnson Ann Marie Dillman Ann Ray Begis Dennis Wolfe Christine Brennan

570-590-1678 570-449-2021 570-590-2729 570-875-9085 570-875-0720



Christ's United Ministry Teams

Christian Education Evangelism/Outreach Lutheran Church Men (LCM) Social Ministry Stewardship WELCA Worship & Music Multimedia Ministry Safety and Security Team <u>Christ's United Committees</u>

Auditing & Finance Committees

Endowment Fund

Mutual Ministry

Nominating

Personnel

Property

Christ's United Lutheran Church <u>Mission Statement</u>

We the members of Christ's United Lutheran Church, Ashland, desiring to be blessed together with Word and Sacrament and to become more perfectly the Body of Christ in our world, do hereby commit ourselves to a mission which includes a creative reexamination of our worship life; a quality educational program for all ages; intentional witnessing; a serving spirit; and an integrated support system which will under gird our program and the *maintenance of our facilities as it* encourages improved stewardship.

Message from Designated Pastor Mindy...



"For all the Saints...your name, oh Jesus, be forever blest."

This month begins with All Saints Day, and I invite you to keep the celebration rolling!

God reveals God's self in the Word, in the sacraments...and in the Spirit's work in and through God's people. And the more we know about them, the more we know about God! We know about our sisters and brothers who witnessed to the faith by writing amazing music in Germany (J.S. Bach), by refusing the advances of a pedophile ruler (the Ugandan martyrs), by listening to the faith stories of the poor people he served with the story of Jesus and becoming a voice for social justice (archbishop Oscar Romero) and on and on. There are some whose stories will resonate stories will resonate with you— find them (I can get you to resources) and treasure them! It's amazing how much the life of someone who lived in a different century and continent can encourage you here and now.

And those are just the ones we know about!

Speaking of which: our stories are gifts that God has given us to share. What you have been through—and everyone has been through stuff—and the grace by which God saw you through it can be sources of strength and hope and life for others in similar circumstances (and sometimes in very different ones). We are part of one body, our lives are not our own, we are gifts one to another.

So, celebrate the Saints you love, connect with more, and let God's light in you shine, shine!

Christian symbol



ROCK — We call Christ "the Solid Rock," remembering his parable about the wise and foolish builders (Matthew 7:24). Jesus changed his disciple Simon's name to Peter, meaning rock, saying he'd build his church "on this rock" (Matthew 16:18). Although some Christians understand Peter to be the rockfoundation of Christ's church, others interpret the foundation as faith in Christ, which, Jesus said, was revealed to Peter by God.

November Council Contact of the month is Deb Price.

The Council Contact of the Month is the "on call" member of council, the person to contact if you have any concerns (other than pastoral concerns), or need access to the building. If you need to contact Deb, she can be reached at 570-205-6241.



Member's Message by Kay Berner



As you are reading this, it is already November with Thanksgiving just around the corner. Now the first Thanksgiving was celebrated in 1621 with a 3 day harvest festival between the Pilgrims and the Wampanoag Indians. It wasn't until 10/3/1863 that Abraham Lincoln declared it a national holiday. It is estimated that 54 million Americans are expected to travel during the Thanksgiving holiday this year. That's a lot of people!

When most people think of Thanksgiving the first thing that comes to mind is turkey. That is quickly followed by stuffing, cranberries, pumpkin pie and all the other delicious foods we expect at this wonderful meal. A lot of people spend the day watching football. And of course we look forward to spending time with our families. But I wonder how many of these people actually take the time to express their thanks to God for all the blessings He has given to them. After all isn't that what we should be doing on a holiday that is called Thanksgiving.

In 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 it says," Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus". And in Philippians 4: 6 Paul writes "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God".

These verses remind us to pray continually and to give thanks in all circumstances, not just on the day of Thanksgiving. They also remind us to pray with thanksgiving no matter what we are facing in our lives. We need to remember that God is with us through the hard times in life as well as the good. There are always blessings to be found even when we grieve, or lose our jobs, or face a serious health issue, just to name a few. Even in those times God wants us to turn to Him with thanks that He is with us and that He will help us to cope. It's easy to find blessings in the times of joy – a new baby – a wedding – a successful career. But it is not so easy when life throws challenges at us.

American Red Cross Community Blood Drive

Christ's United Lutheran Church

437 Airport Road (Gordon) Ashland, PA 17921

Monday, December 4, 2023 1:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Please contact Debbie Hall or call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2676) or visit www.redcrossblood.org to schedule an appointment.

Open to the public and walk-Ins are Welcome!

Grateful for grace

In this oneness, Jesus Christ is the Mediator, the Reconciler, between God and man. Thus he comes forward to man on behalf of God,



calling for and awakening faith, love and hope, and to God on behalf of man, representing man, making satisfaction and interceding. Thus he attests and guarantees to God's free grace and at the same time attests and guarantees to God man's free gratitude.

-Karl Barth, The Humanity of God

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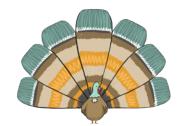
CULC YOUTH GROUP Activities



All kids who had First Communion and their families are welcome.

November - Christmas Cards-Date TBD- snacks and cookies December- Joy through the Grove - Date TBD- Eat at OIP in Elysburg or somewhere else

Ask to help with congregation dinners and road clean up



WOVEN UNITH Uratitude

Handicrafts can spark appreciation for simple items. Weave this basket as a gift.

- What you need: • Paper plate • Pencil
 - Scissors
 - Yarn (different colors)

What you do:

- In the center of the plate, trace something round. Draw 9 lines (evenly spaced) from the circle to the plate's edge.
- Cut along each line, stopping at the center circle. Trim more of the plate off so the cuts make a gradual V shape.
- Fold the plate's sides upward to form basket sides. Keep these upright as you weave a bowl-shaped basket.
- Begin weaving a length of yarn at the circle's base. Hold the end of the yarn in place as you spread the length over and under each side of the plate.
- Switch colors to make a pattern. Keep the yarn tight as you weave up the sides.
- 6. To finish, bend down any remaining paper. Leave a tail of yarn and tuck it under a woven portion. Share your craft with a friend!

Paul also reminds us to not be anxious about anything but rather turn to God with our needs and fears. We need to trust that He will walk with us during these times of hardships. We need to pray with thanksgiving at all times not just on 1 day a year that is designated for giving thanks. And so I challenge all of you (and myself included) to find a blessing each and every day in your life and then turn to God and give Him thanks for His goodness. Happy Thanksgiving!

Yours in Christ, Kay Berner



PRAYER CHAIN

Each day members of Christ's United bow their heads and lift their hearts in prayer for the ministries of this congregation and people in need.



A copy of the Prayer List is available at worship services each Sunday. You also have an email sent to you each week with a list of those in need of your prayers. A phone chain notifies you of immediate needs. If there is an immediate need of prayer, please call the church office. In the event the office is closed, Gail Marquardt (570-554-1075 or 570-933-1737) should be called to begin the prayer chain. Please call the church office for more information or to become a Prayer Chain Participant.



Church Council Highlights From October

- Sunday school will have one class to start October 15th and Confirmation will start the first Sunday in November.
- Lutheran Church Men are planning the Pork and Sauerkraut dinner for October 21st.
- Stewardship Sunday will be November 12th as Generosity Sunday. Commitment cards will be handed out as well as included in the November newsletter. On November 19th there will be a time and talent talk.
- New projector in use. New laptop computer was purchased for ٠ compatibility with new projector – additional volunteers need to be trained to run PowerPoint for worship.





The Short Books of the Bible study was not a howling success. In fact, nobody came. So, what's up? Was it the time? The topic? I'm here, available, flexible, and innovation is my middle name. What do you need? What do

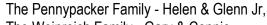
you want? What would work for you?

Pastor Mindy

Praying Through the Directory

Each month we will be listing three of our church faith families. We ask that you take the time and uplift them in prayer for their needs and spiritual journey.

This month we pray for:





The Weinreich Family - Gary & Connie The Baker Family - Jason, Dana & Brody



The following donations were given to Christ's United's Memorial Fund since the last issue of the Newsletter:

- In Memory of Emerson Wolfgang by: Dr. Kay Berner John & Cheryl Denchak Carrie, Russ & Zach Hummel
- In Memory of Jackie Babb by: Sandra Zenzel

Donations to CULC Capital Campaign

In Memory of Emerson Wolfgang by: **Terry & Dorothy Kessler**

Donations to Christ's Cupboard

- In Memory of Emerson Wolfgang by: Donna & Ron Wallace Peggy & Frank Dziczek Beth & Ron Andrews
- In Honor of Birthday of Susan Merwine by: Shirley Frey







2023 Sponsorships



The new sponsorship sign up sheets are now posted on the bulletin board. Sign up for:

Altar Flowers \$35.00* Worship Bulletins \$15.00 Special service bulletins \$10.00 Sanctuary Candle \$10.00 Children's Bulletins \$10.00 Monthly Newsletters \$40.00.

For Altar Flowers:

Please sign up by the bulletin board for week(s) you would like to sponsor Altar Flowers and call "Flowers From the Heart" 570-339-2519 to place order. **Cost is \$35.00. Please place order and make payment directly to the florist.**

All other sponsorships, please make payable to CULC and give to Debbie in the Church Office.



Standard time returns. Remember to turn your clocks back one hour on Saturday, November 3rd before going to bed.



We Offer our Prayers to...

Please note that those experiencing a traumatic event are placed onto the Prayer List and will be **kept on for one month and then taken off.** If you would like someone added, please call the office or write their name on the Prayer Request sheet found on the Prayer Podium. **Please provide updates to the office in order that the list is always current.**



October 22 - Jerry Freiler (K. Hansbury) Heidi Walsh Karen Smith Andrew Schronick (D. Zaharick) October 15 – John & Janet Towey Marlene Lucas (D. Wallace) Barb Anczarski's Family Jim Houston Families of Frank Towey, Mim Maurer & Margaret Lewullis October 8 - Rick Fritz (D. Stank) Vicky Zelweck (D. Price) Samantha James (Erik Tice) Pearl & Carl Lute (L. Klinger) Dianna Monaghan (L. Klinger) Donny Maurer (T. Neumeister) Tom Lute (T. Neumeister) Linda Zerby (J. Young) Families of Emerson Wolfgang & Kathy Ahrensfield October 1 – Darrell Kehler (V. Brown) Sam Troup Jr. (K. Berner) Barbara Stepanchick Katie Miohin (B. & K. Yoder)

Please continue to pray for: Corrine & Josh Coward, Jim Gruber, Annette Houser, James Houser Sr., Barbara Liem, Carl (Mickey) Lute, Dianna Monaghan, Irene Morgan, Cheryl Varndell

Remember our Home-bound: Leroy Berner, Diane Heidlebaugh, Jim Hepler, Nancy Kessler, Gail Marquardt, Richard Shoup, Anna Neumeister, Karen Smith, Dot Zangari, Linda Zerby

And Friends: Michelle Ambrose, Robert Beecher, Mark Bennyhoff, Donald Bulla, Arlene Chillis, George Dornsife, Joe Ferraro Jr., Harry Fishburn, Bob Griffiths, Dan Grow, Minah Horan, Ron James, Tracy Maurer, Elizabeth Smith & family, Pastor Sunny, Wayne "Webby" Weinreich, Karyssa Wenrich



- 1 James Dengler William Dillman, Jr. Robert Nagle Jessica Shadle
- 4 Dean Krise
- 5 Brayden Koons
- 7 Joshua Coward John W. Wolfgang
- 8 Daylon Long Steven Wolfgang
- 9 Amy Fegley Jo-Ann Young
- 11 Brooke Harris Jordan Walter
- 12 Deanna Hepler Connie Weinreich
- 13 Rick Walsh
- 14 Deidre Dengler Brian Rickert Cory Weikel, Sr.

- 16 Melody Bosco Jack Houser Jean Wolfgang
- 19 Randy Lucas
- 20 Charles Sweinhart
- 21 Breann Barker
 - Jean Bitting Carol Reiner
- 23 Tracy Berner
 - Carl Lute
- 24 Dale Bolich
- 25 Bernie Marquardt
- 26 Suzanne Peel
- 27 Cathy Stutzman
- 28 Becky Spencer
- Garrison Stehr 29 Remington Stehr
- 30 Tammy Dengler
 - Rusty McAndrew



CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTMAS MEAL

DECEMBER 10 11:00 a.m.

following morning worship

BAKED HAM and BAKED CHICKEN GRAVY / HOT AND COLD DRINKS will be provided by WELCA and LCM

Sign up to attend and include what you will bring as a side dish to share.

Indicate what specifically you will contribute: FILLING

HOT VEGETABLES (yams, corn, green beans, etc)

SALADS (coleslaw, cranberry sauce, broccoli, veggies, etc.)

DINNER ROLLS

DESSERT (cake, pie, pudding, etc)



11/12/17	John & Hannah Lisowski
11/12/05	Tim & Deb Hubler
11/14/85	Frank & Peggy Dziczek
11/19/11	Ken & Jen Snyder
11/20/82	Bruce & Jean Bitting
11/30/96	John & Joan Wolfgang





The next WELCA meeting will be on November 1st at 6:00 pm. All women are invited to join us.

LUNCH BUNCH

All are invited to join the LUNCH BUNCH on MONDAY, November 6th at 1:00pm at OIP in Shamokin. Please sign the list on the Bulletin Board so reservation and transportation can be planned. For more info, contact Donna Wallace.





Sunday, Nov. 5

All Saints Day is a time of both remembrance and celebration as we recognize that God spans all time, and for the family of God life has no end. Those who believe in Jesus Christ are Saints, saved by Christ, and blessed with eternal life.

As we gather we will lift up the names of those Saints who have joined the company of heaven in the past year, since last All Saints Day (November 6, 2022). We ask that you share their names with the church office by calling (570-875-1591), emailing (office@christsunited.org), or filling out the form below by <u>Sunday, October 29th.</u>

Name:

16

Date of Death:_____

Requested by:_____

Take time to recharge

"Then Jesus said, 'Let's go off by ourselves to a quiet place and rest awhile.' He said this because there were so many people coming and going that Jesus and his apostles didn't even have time to eat" (Mark 6:31, NLT). Can you relate? Especially during the holidays, we're "coming and going" so much that we often run out of steam.



As an introvert, I learned an important lesson while navigating a busy graduation season for my son. I was happy to host a celebration for family and friends, but about 20 minutes into the party, fatigue clouded my spirit. My social battery was empty and desperately needed charging.

I sought out my cousin — who "gets" me — and admitted I needed a break. He kindly replied, "Then go into another room and just be. We've got things covered." I was heard and assured that it was okay to press pause. Even Jesus and his disciples sought privacy and rest.

In what ways do you need a break today? Even if you're an extrovert, how can you care for your whole self during the holiday rush? Pay attention and give yourself permission to proactively recharge your battery.

—Janna Firestone

Attention Veterans

On Sunday, November 12th, we would like to recognize the members of Christ's United who are Veterans. If you are a Veteran, or know of someone in our congregation who is, let us know. Please submit names to the church office by October 31st.



The Annual Budget meeting will take place on Sunday, November 12th fol-MEETING lowing worship. The budget will detail the costs of doing ministry, broken down into the larger ministry areas such

as Education, Social Ministry, and Worship (and more!). Please take the time to review the proposed budget with thanksgiving and prayer for the blessings from Christ at work here at Christ's United. To help us prepare, the ministry budget will be available on October 29th.

PLEASE NOTE - A special Congregational Meeting will also be held at this time to discuss the repairing of the furnace in the Social Hall.



I want to thank everyone for their prayers, concerns, cards, flowers, and visits after my recent surgery. I'm so grateful for my church family.

Pleas keep praying as it will be a while till I'm back on track.

Thank you, Peggy

Give Electronically

Credit/Debit Card **Checking/Savings** Christ's United accepts electronic donations

Electronic Giving is a convenient way to provide consistent financial support to our church. Go to www.christsunited.org or scan the QR code to learn how you can participate.





Answers: seed, bread, harvest, generous, thanksgiving





Fellowship Hour will be held after worship on only the first Sunday of each month September through May. See schedule below for your committee's turn to serve. Please sign up on the bulletin board to help.

November - Social Ministry December - Evangelism/ Endowment/Stewardship

~ 2024 ~ January - WELCA February - Church Council March - Evangelism/ Endowment/Stewardship April - Social Ministry May - WELCA

June/July/August -

14

No Social Hour



We will be collecting the following items for November:

Cranberry Sauce & Canned Fruit

Please place your donations in the shopping cart.

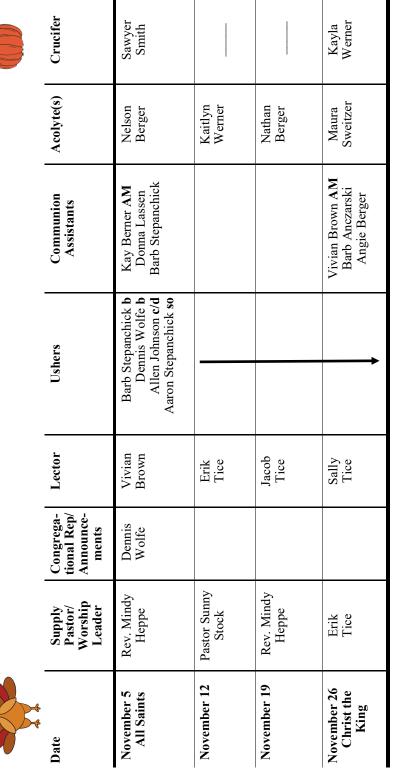
Thank You!

The next food distribution date is Thursday November 9, 2023





Serving Our Community of Faith in November:



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November 2023

						-
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
			9:45 Bible Study 10:30 Seniors 6:00 WELCA	6:30 Choir Practice		STILLEHT-SAMME
5 All Saints Sunday	6	7	8	9	10	11 Veterans Day
9:30 Worship w/Holy Communion 10:30 Fellowship Hour 10:45 Sunday School	7:00 Church Council		9:45 Bible Study 10:30 Seniors	10 – 11:30 Christ's Cupboard 6:30 Choir Practice	5:30 Harris/Aldridge Wedding Rehearsal	2:00 Harris/Aldridge Wedding
12 Generosity Sunday	13	14	15	16	17	18
9:30 Worship 10:30 Annual Budget Mtg & Special Cong. Mtg			9:45 Bible Study 10:30 Seniors	6:30 Choir Practice		
19	20	21	22	23 Thanksgiving Day	24	25
9:30 Worship 10:45 Sunday School		6:30 Choir Practice	9:45 Bible Study 10:30 Seniors	HAPPY Thanksgiving		
26 Christ the King	27	28	29	30		
9:30 Worship w/Holy Communion			8:30 Newsletter Assembly 9:45 Bible Study 10:30 Seniors	6:30 Choir Practice		GIVE THANKS