

Christ's United Lutheran Church  
 437 Airport Road  
 Ashland, PA 17921  
[www.christsunited.org](http://www.christsunited.org)

Mailed 6/28/23

NON-PROFIT  
 ORGANIZATION  
 U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
 Pottsville, PA  
 PERMIT NO. 25

July



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



*The CULC Messenger*  
*God's Work,*  
*Our Actions*

*Don't pray when*  
*you feel like it.*  
*Have an*  
*appointment*  
*with the Lord*  
*and keep it.*

*-Corrie ten Boom*

*The CULC Messenger*  
*God's Work, Our Actions*





# Christ's United Lutheran Church

One God. One People. One Purpose.

437 Airport Road, Ashland, PA 17921

www.christsunited.org

(570) 875-1591

July 2023

## CHURCH COUNCIL 2023

	Phone	Term Expires
Kay Berner President	570-875-1035	Feb. 2026
Dennis Wolfe Vice President	570-875-9085	Feb. 2024
Morgen Sweitzer Secretary	570-682-8240	Feb. 2026
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

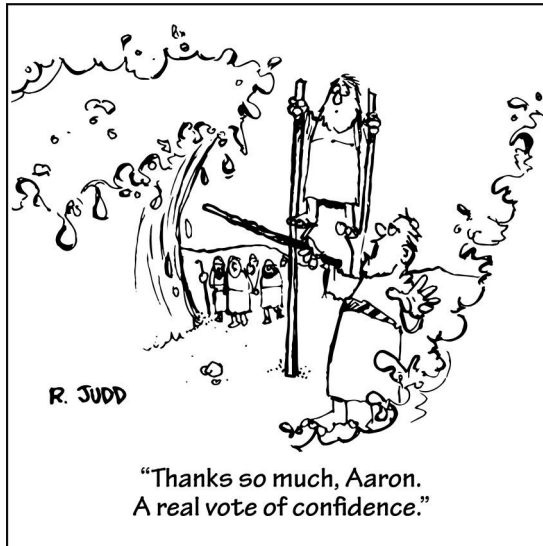
### STAFF

**Parish Administrator**      Debbie Hall      570-875-1591  
office@christsunited.org      570-789-9722  
**Office Hours:** Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 8:00 am- 4:00 pm

**Director of Music**      Jamie Johnson      570-590-1678  
**Treasurer**      Ann Marie Dillman      570-449-2021  
**Indoor Custodian**      Ann Ray Begis      570-590-2729  
**Outdoor Custodian**      Drew Kissinger  
**Financial Secretary**      Christine Brennan      570-875-0720

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### Status of Accounts as of May 31

Total amount in checking account: \$124,571.59.  
Amount needed in offerings per month to meet our  
2023 Annual Budget of \$195,263.89 is \$16,271.99.  
May income was \$12,582.11.  
Expenses for May were \$6,506.13,  
resulting in a net income of \$6,075.98 .  
Memorial account balance is \$45,531.76.  
Benevolence Gifts for May were \$926.00.



## 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

## Christ's United Committees

Auditing & Finance Committees  
Endowment Fund  
Mutual Ministry  
Nominating  
Personnel  
Property

## **Christ's United Lutheran Church**

### Mission Statement

*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 re-examination of our worship life; a quality educational program for all ages; intentional witnessing; a serving spirit; and an integrated support system which will undergird our program and the maintenance of our facilities as it encourages improved stewardship.*

## *Message from Designated Pastor Mindy...*



Grace and peace to you in the name of our triune God!

I'm Pastor Melinda (Mindy) Heppe, your new Designated Pastor. It's a role I've filled for a number of churches, each one unique, and I'm eager to get to know you.

I'm a native Skook (from Ringtown) and spent most of my ministry in Shenandoah and several surrounding communities, but I've taught undergrads in Ireland and seminarians in Lithuania, hosted interns from Slovakia, and worked for a magazine for seminary trustees (of allsorts). In my retirement, I'm doing some writing and spending time with my three grandkids, all of whom live nearby.

But enough about me! Please let me know about your varied ministries and how I can support you in them. Introduce yourself—more than once: I'm visually impaired and faces are a challenge. Tell me your faith stories: each of them is a gift to the whole Church. I look forward to seeing you soon.

Shalom!



## Christian symbol

**HARP** — This multi-stringed musical instrument is associated with David, who played to soothe King Saul and later wrote many Psalms. The harp also represents praise music in general, as well as all the instruments people use to glorify God (see Psalm 71:22). The idea that angels play harps comes from Revelation 14:2 (“And I heard a voice from heaven like the sound of ... harpists playing on their harps”).



## Member's Message

July! Independence Day! As we celebrate our nation's and individual independence I couldn't help but think that with our freedom also comes responsibility. As individuals we have basic safety responsibilities, don't leave the food sit out in the sun, watch the children setting off fireworks and playing with sparklers, don't drink and drive. But we also have larger responsibilities with our freedom. We have to respect the freedoms of others that are in opposition to what we believe or think. We have to respect other nationalities, cultures, and religions. We have to be responsible for our mistakes as well as those of others. Jesus lived his life doing just that. He taught his disciples by word and example but he also allowed them to make mistakes -- Peter denying knowing Jesus, not once, but three times, Thomas doubting his rising from the tomb. But each time they had a lapse in following his teachings he forgave them. He gave them another chance. Jesus even went as far as asking God to forgive those who crucified him. So with his example in mind we must also accept our mistakes and those of others around us and move forward with forgiveness. Independence, freedom, forgiveness and faith go hand in hand in our individual lives, our nation and our faith.

Morgen Sweitzer



## American Red Cross Community Blood Drive Christ's United Lutheran Church

437 Airport Road (Gordon)  
Ashland, PA 17921

**Monday, August 7, 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](http://www.redcrossblood.org)  
to schedule an appointment.

Open to the public and walk-ins are Welcome!

### **Give Electronically**

**Checking/Savings      Credit/Debit Card**  
**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](http://www.christsunited.org) or scan the QR code to learn how you can participate.





# CULC YOUTH GROUP

## Activities

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

**July-** Knoebels- Date TBD- congregation is invited

**August** - Congregational Picnic- will help with games

**September** – Date TBD- corn maze

**October** - Trunk-Or-Treat

**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



# SANDY SCENES

Make a scene with this fun summer craft you can create outdoors.



### What you need:

- Play sand
- Spoons
- Empty jars
- Powdered tempera paint
- Cardstock paper and pencil
- Craft glue
- Paintbrush



### What you do:

1. Pour a few tablespoons of sand into empty jars. (You need one jar for every color of paint you make.)
2. Add a small amount of powdered paint to the sand and then mix. Experiment with the amount, using more paint to create deeper colors.
3. Lightly sketch a design on cardstock.
4. Working in one small section at a time, paint an even layer of craft glue on the paper.
5. Use a spoon to sprinkle colored sand atop the glue. Tilt the paper so extra sand falls off. Repeat to complete the entire design.
6. Let dry on a flat surface before displaying upright.



## Council Highlights

## Church Council Highlights from April

- Income for May was \$12,582.11. Expenses for May were \$6,506.13, which resulted in a net income of \$6,075.98.
- Both CULC Council and Pastor Mindy Heppe signed the contract for Pastor Heppe to serve as our Designated Pastor. It was agreed she will lead Worship one Sunday each month and will attend Worship and Music Committee meetings.
- A Dedication Service is planned for the Memorial Garden. Possibly on September 10th or 24th.
- Safety and Security team is still working on the telephone lines for communications with the Security System.
- New office computers have been ordered.
- Debbie Hall was in contact with the post office to see if the mail-box can be moved to under the canopy entrance. The mail carrier was fine with the move but we are now waiting to hear from the Postmaster with approval from the Postal Service.

## June Council Contact of the month is Kay Berner.

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 Kay, she can be reached at 570-875-1035.



Council Member  
of the Month



## 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.**



## 2023 Sponsorships

The 2023 sponsorship sign up sheets are posted on the bulletin board.  
Sign up for:

Altar Flowers \$35.00  
Worship Bulletins \$15.00  
Children's Bulletins \$10.00  
Sanctuary Lamp \$10.00  
Monthly Newsletter \$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.

**June 25** – Chris Moser (D. Zaharick)  
Andrew Haner (M. Sweitzer)  
Frank Carr (T. Shilling)  
Bill Petrusky (E. Tice)  
Jeanette Zerbe (T. Dengler)  
Barry Faust (Bitterman Family)

*Family of Debbie Moyer*

**June 18** – Jackie Babb (B. Andrews)  
*Family of Robert Corcoran (J. Towey)*

**June 11** – *Family of Joe Francaviglia (J. Young)*

**June 4** – Larry Wolfgang (J. Wolfgang)  
Sean Kramer (C. Varndell)  
Gail Marquardt (D. Lassen)  
Chris Zerbe (K. Dengler)

*Family of Dennis Kane*

**Please continue to pray for:** Corrine & Josh Coward, Jim Gruber, Jim Hepler, Annette Houser, James Houser Sr. (A. Berger), Jennifer Koch, Barbara Liem, Carl (Mickey) Lute, Dianna Monaghan, Irene Morgan (B. Andrews), Richard Shoup (H. Shoup), Dorothy Zangari, Linda Zerby

Michelle Ambrose, Robert Beecher, Mark Bennyhoff, Donald Bulla, Arlene Chillis, George Dornsife (J. Babb), Joe Ferraro Jr., Harry Fishburn, Bob Griffiths, Dan Grow, Minah Horan, Pastor Bob & Donna Hughes, Ron James (V. Brown), Kay Keefer, Tracy Maurer (C. Neumeister), Elizabeth Smith & family, Wayne "Webby" Weinreich (C. Weinreich), Karyssa Wenrich

## 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 O'Connor Family - Brian, Natalie, Ashley & Brian  
The Weikel Family - Chad & Natasha  
The Andrews Family - Ron & Beth



## The power of kindness

No kind action ever stops with itself. One kind action leads to another. Good example is followed. A single act of kindness throws out roots in all directions, and the roots spring up and make new trees. The greatest work that kindness does to others is that it makes them kind themselves.

—Amelia Earhart



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



**In Memory of Grace Johnson by:**

Beth & Ron Andrews

**In Memory of John Kimmel by:**

Beth & Ron Andrews  
Dorothy & Terry Kessler

**In Memory of John & Katie Kimmel by:**

Pearl & Carl Lute

## 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 weekend. You may also have an email sent to you on Tuesdays with a list of those in need of your prayers. A phone chain notifies you of immediate needs. Please call the church office for more information.



## Soul care through studying

Summer isn't often associated with studying, but it can be an ideal time to dive into God's Word. Just keep in mind: Studying the Bible involves more than merely reading the words. The process begins with a humble spirit to not only gain information but to let Scripture transform you.

I've heard about various practices for Bible study. Some people set aside a special place, with multiple concordances and commentaries at their fingertips. I thrive on a bit more variety. Comparing a couple of Bible translations and paraphrases proves helpful for my studies.

Renovaré, Richard Foster's institute that aims to help people become more like Jesus, advises: "It is vital to study not only books but also those things around us such as nature, relationships, events and cultural values." What are the most meaningful ways for you to study God's Word?

—Janna Firestone



On June 10th, I walked in the Relay for Life in Danville. I participated in many activities including a teddy bear lap, a bubble lap, and a pinwheel lap. At last count I had donations of \$665.00. I was the top money earner on my team -- The Lanterns. A large part of this money came from my church family here at Christ's United. I want to thank everyone for helping me meet and pass my goal. Thank you again for supporting me.

Love, Maura

**Tabs for Labs collection discontinued**—Susquehanna Service Dogs no longer participates in the Tabs for Labs program. We are no longer collecting the tabs - you no longer need to save and bring the tabs to church. Thank you.





## JULY BIRTHDAYS

- |    |                     |    |                       |
|----|---------------------|----|-----------------------|
| 2  | Heather Schweinhart | 13 | Deb Price             |
| 3  | Mindy Burke         | 14 | Todd Walacavage       |
|    | Dustin Koons        | 15 | Peter Hepler          |
|    | Joan Clark          | 17 | Samuel Troup, Jr.     |
|    | John E. Shilling    | 18 | Samantha Schneider    |
| 4  | John Denchak        | 19 | Wesley Long           |
| 5  | Christopher Dillman | 20 | Maura Sweitzer        |
| 6  | Chris Brennan       | 22 | Tami Wagner           |
|    | James Locker        | 23 | Jennifer Singleton    |
|    | Sally Tice          | 24 | Kylie Sisko           |
|    | Ron Wallace         | 26 | Dylan Heyer           |
| 7  | Jeremiah Johnson    | 27 | Jeremy Rock           |
|    | Michelle Knorr      | 28 | Kimberly Miller       |
|    | Rick Lorady         | 29 | Tyson Fetterolf       |
|    | Patrick Monaghan    | 30 | Fletcher Sterling     |
|    | Jeffrey Sharp       | 31 | Carla Mae Carl        |
|    | Daniel Sisko        |    | Rachael Green         |
| 9  | Larry Wolfgang      |    | Thomas Wolfgang       |
| 10 | Nelson Berger, Jr.  |    | Zeke Shingara         |
|    | Keith Yoder         |    | Lydia Price           |
| 11 | Eric Singleton      |    | David Cunningham, Sr. |
|    | Deb Hubler          |    | Diane Rock            |
| 12 | Dylan Barker        |    | Brayden Ladick        |
|    | William Harris      |    | Jamie Pennypacker     |
|    |                     |    | Hannah Towey          |
|    |                     |    | Kylie Mallams         |
|    |                     |    | Barbara Fetterolf     |



# Puzzle!

Fill in the blanks with the correct words. Then transfer the letters to the numbered boxes below to complete Psalm 107:1, NIV.

Shape that symbolizes love                                     
31 15 7 18 5

Part of a stove used for baking                              
12 3 24 39

Color made by red and yellow                                            
28 42 7 8 27 37

A present                              
1 32 20 11

Clothing a girl wears                                     
19 22 43 44 33

Something you open to go into a room                              
40 29 17 47

Opposite of soft (sound)                              
34 17 41 30

To take a long walk                              
14 2 9 38

A high body temperature                                     
45 50 49 48 42

Items used to build or fix things                                     
13 35 21 16 26

Edge of the sea                                     
10 23 46 51 4

Home for a bee                              
6 25 36 4

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8
9	10		11	12		13	14	15
	16	17	18	19		20	21	22
	23	24		25	26		27	28
29	30		31	32	33		34	35
36	37		38	39	40	41	42	43
44		45	46	47	48	49	50	51

Answer: heart, oven, orange, gift, dress, door, loud, hike, fever, tools, shore, hive; Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever. Psalm 107:1, NIV





The next WELCA meeting will be the annual indoor picnic on August 2 at 6:00 pm. All women are invited to join in.



**JULY ANNIVERSARIES**

07/08/76	James & Jo Conrath
07/08/95	Greg & Penny Lindenmuth
07/10/93	Gary & Connie Weinreich
07/10/93	Thomas & Michelle Hood
07/15/22	Derek & Amanda Whritenour
07/28/01	Rick & Gail Lorady
07/30/05	Susan & Shaun McNally
07/30/22	Zach Ridall & Rhonda Carl
07/31/70	James & Carol Reiner

**RED, WHITE, AND BLESSED!  
WOMEN OF ELCA  
ANNUAL PICNIC  
at CHRIST'S UNITED  
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 2, 2023  
6:00 PM**



All women of CULC are invited to the annual **indoor** picnic.

Invitations have also been extended to the women of Good Shepherd, Ashland / Friedens, Hegins / St. James, Pitman / Trinity, Valley View and Zion, Minersville.

Sign up on bulletin board to attend and bring a covered dish or dessert to share.

Games will be played but you **do not need to bring a gift.**

Also, a **RED, WHITE, AND BLESSED attire contest** will be held. A prize will be awarded to person voted on by attendees.



*Summer Music*

Do you sing or play a musical instrument? If so, consider sharing your musical gifts with your church family this summer. The choir is on a well- deserved break and we are hoping to schedule a variety of special music throughout the season. Guitar, piano, flute, trumpet, harmonica,- all are welcome! Soloists, duets, quartets-we'd love to hear you! Gospel, Contemporary, Classical, Praise - all will enhance our worship!

Contact Jamie Johnson to schedule a Sunday if you are willing to provide special music.



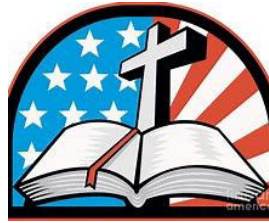
## ADDITIONAL 2023 GRADUATES



**Ralph Johnson** graduated from the Pennsylvania College of Technology with a degree in Forestry.

**Danielle Little** (Granddaughter of Jo-Ann Young) graduated on May 1<sup>st</sup> from the Pennsylvania College of Technology with a degree in Nursing.

**Luke and Liam Young** (Grandsons of Jo-Ann Young and Lowell Martin) graduated High School and plan to attend the University of Tennessee.



### Freedom

Each one of us is born most free  
And we alone can choose  
To do what God would have us do,  
To use what God would use.

Or we are also free to seek  
The proud and selfish way —  
A life where other gods come first  
To reign and hold full sway.

But when we follow where Christ leads,  
We find that freedom's place  
Is really in God's will for us,  
And we have chosen GRACE!

—Peggy Ferrell, *Prayers and Poems*

## Bridge 127 Collection

July 1 – July 30

Children in foster care are sometimes separated from their siblings. Others will be sent from one foster placement to another, never knowing how long they'll be staying. Often, these children have nothing to call their own and face rejection, neglect, abuse, and abandonment.

Bridge 127, Inc. in Pottsville, Pennsylvania partners with local child welfare agencies to assist high risk youth, make placement transitions easier, and to assist aged-out youth as they gain independence.

Paula Weinert, one of the founders of Bridge 127 will join us for worship on July 9. Come out and hear about this ministry and how it helps youth in our community.

The Social Ministry Team of Christ's United asks for your support and help in collecting the following items for Bridge 127.

Thank you!



# SOCIAL MINISTRY



**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.

~ 2023 ~

- June/July/August** - No Social Hour
- September**—Choir/ Worship & Music / LCM
- October**—Church Council
- November** - Social Ministry
- December** - Evangelism/ Endowment/Stewardship

We will be collecting the following items for July:

## Spaghetti & Sauce

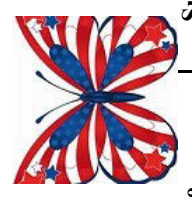
Please place your donations in the shopping cart.

Thank You!

The next food distribution date is **Thursday July 13, 2023**



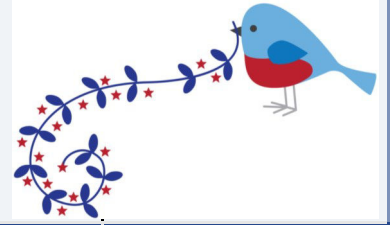
## Serving Our Community of Faith in July:





Date	Supply Pastor/ Worship Leader	Congregational Rep/ Announcements	Lector	Ushers	Communion Assistants	Acolyte(s)	Crucifer
July 2	Rev. David Werley	Jacob Tice	Becky Spencer	Thomas Wolfgang b Tyler Wolfgang b Allen Johnson c/d John Wolfgang so	Kay Berner AM Donna Wallace Donna Lassen	Ava Hubler	Cole Johnson
July 9	Erik Tice	Ken Dengler	Deb Hubler	→		Maura Sweitzer	—
July 16	Rev. Mindy Heppe	Dennis Wolfe	Donna Lassen			Joey McAndrew	Sawyer Smith Tag-A-Long
July 23			Angie Berger			Kaitlyn Werner	—
July 30			Erik Tice			Nathan Berger	—



# July 2023



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 9:30 Worship w / Holy Communion	3	4  INDEPENDENCE Day	5 10:30 Seniors	6	7	8
9 9:30 Worship	10	11	12 10:30 Seniors	13 10:00 – 11:30 Christ's Cupboard distribution 	14	15
16 9:30 Worship	17	18	19 10:30 Seniors	20	21	22
23 9:30 Worship	24	25	26 8:30 Newsletter Assembly 10:30 Seniors	27	28	29
30 9:30 Worship Good Samaritan Fund Offering	31	