

Christ's United Lutheran Church
 437 Airport Road
 Ashland, PA 17921
www.christsunited.org

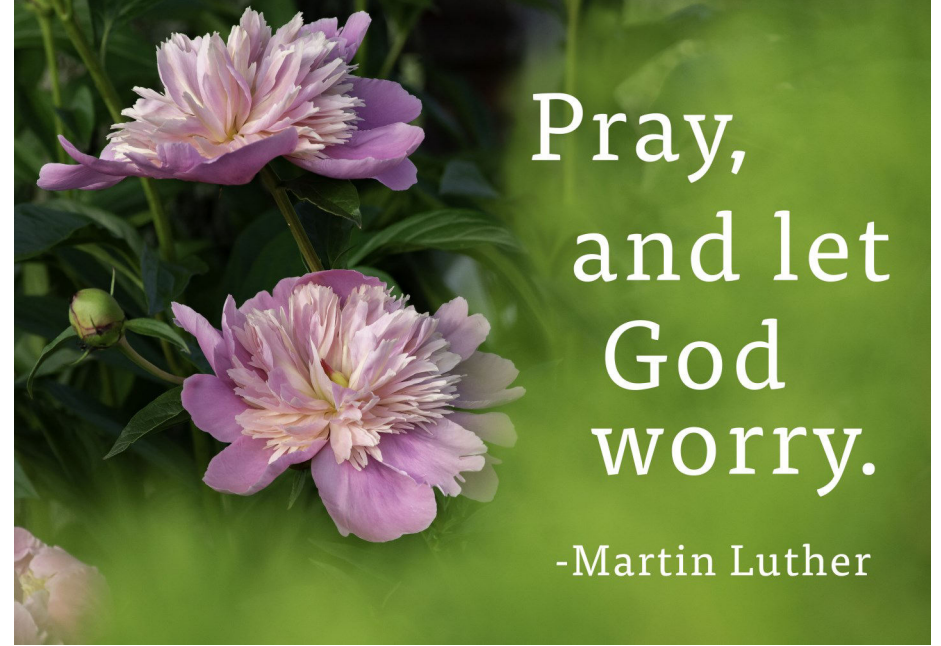
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May



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



Pray,
 and let
 God
 worry.

-Martin Luther

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

*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

May 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

Vacant

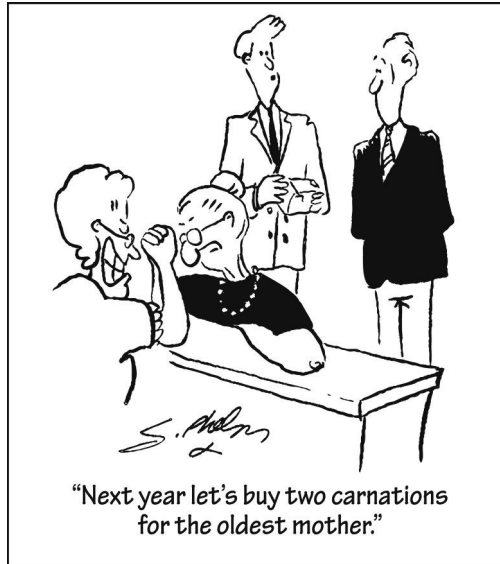
STAFF

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 March 31

Total amount in checking account: \$111,387.84.
 Amount needed in offerings per month to meet our
 2023 Annual Budget of \$195,263.89 is \$16,271.99.
 March income was \$12,656.11.
 Expenses for March were \$13,588.78,
 resulting in a loss of \$932.67.
 Benevolence Gifts for March were \$1,113.96.



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.

Member's Message



SAVED BY GRACE

The 40 days of Lent provided us with the opportunity to walk with Jesus and take stock of our relationship with God. It can be very humbling. It can also be exhausting if you truly take the time for honest self-reflection. Often times we do not like what we see. But Holy week is a time of remembrance of the incredible sacrifice Jesus made for us. And then comes the time for great celebration with the chant "Christ is risen ... He is risen indeed. Alleluia!" The resurrection of Jesus frees us to follow the call to serve God.

The joyous celebration of Easter morning and the wonderful feeling of hope that comes along with that celebration is not something that we should experience only once a year. Each time we worship in person or on line we are reminded of the fact that God loves us for who we are and our sins are forgiven. Each time we receive Holy Communion, we renew our relationship with Jesus and His love for us. We no longer need to hold on to the guilt of things we have done that we wish we could take back. We are asked to not look back at our past but keep our attention on the present and the future, This is an incredible gift that we should be thankful for every day.

Now that Lenten season and Easter Day are over, what is next? We need to live our faith-based life daily, not just on Sundays. Follow the great commandment every day: "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength" (Deut. 6:5).



Christian symbol

EYE OF GOD — This symbol represents our "all-seeing" God, who is present everywhere and is always watching over us. ("The eyes of the Lord are in every place," Proverbs 15:3, NRSV.) The eye is inside an equilateral triangle, which is associated with the Holy Trinity.

CULC's worship services and educational classes for children, youth, and adults provide opportunities for us to develop our understanding of the Bible and our Lutheran heritage.

The second commandment is this: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself" (Matthew 22:39). We are not expected to be perfect but we are expected to keep trying. The single best way for us to serve God is to live our faith openly in our daily lives. Let others know what it is to be a person of faith who follows Jesus.

We can show love for our neighbors by providing aid to those less fortunate. CULC reaches out to those in need through Christ's Cupboard each month. Quilts, school and personal care kits are prepared for Lutheran World Relief and our Benevolence donations aid many different needs near and far away.

Thank you all for making CULC such a loving and vibrant spiritual home!

Donna Wallace



May Council Contact of the month is Darlene Stank

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 Darlene, she can be reached at 570-875-1644.



Council Member of the Month



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

437 Airport Road (Gordon)
Ashland, PA 17921

Monday, June 5, 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!

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 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.

May 6th Help crush cans and then campfire and game night at Tices'.

June 4th - Miniature golf and ice cream- congregation is invited

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



Spirit SPINNER

For Pentecost, make a thaumatrope, a spinning toy that creates an optical illusion of motion.

What you need:

- White paper
- Cup
- Scissors
- Pencil and markers
- Plastic drinking straw
- Glue



What you do:

1. Using the cup's circular shape, trace two identical circles on the paper. Carefully cut them out.
2. In pencil, draw a person's head on one circle. Then place the blank circle on top and use the image beneath to guide you in drawing a flame above the head.
3. Color the two images with markers.
4. Apply glue to the backs of the circles and sandwich the top of the straw between them so it looks like a lollipop. Let dry.
5. Roll the straw quickly between your hands to view a mini motion picture.



Council Highlights

Church Council Highlights from April

- Income for March was \$12,656.11. Expenses for March were \$13,588.78., which resulted in a net loss of \$932.67.
- The Garden Club has begun working on the Prayer Garden.
- The Youth Group will help fill and hide eggs for the Egg Hunt.
- The front door security buzzer can only be heard in the office. Darlene Stank has a wireless doorbell she will donate so the receiver can be moved throughout the building when no one's in the office.
- New computers are being priced for the office and Financial Secretary.
- Schuylkill District Assembly is 4/30/23 at 2 pm to be held at Jerusalem Lutheran in Schuylkill Haven. The backup location is St. Paul's in Orwigsburg. Someone from our congregation should be present.



Thank you to everyone who contributed to our Easter Egg Hunt in any way. Your suggestions, participation, donations of eggs, candy, monetary gifts and time were all greatly appreciated. It was a beautiful day and we had about 65 children participating in the egg hunt. We packed and distributed 73 Easter gift bags. This is God's work reaching out to our community. Thanks to God and everyone for all you do.

Barbara Stepanchick &
Easter Egg Hunt Committee

We Offer our Prayers to...

- April 23** – Bill Begis
April 16 – Sherry Ney
 Jeanne Mantz (V. Brown)
 Kaitlyn (A. Berger)
 Leona (A. Berger)
April 9 – *Families of* Jason Hubler
 Ricky Payne
April 2 – Pastor Sunny Stock
 Ron Yarnell (J. Wolfgang)
 Cathy Meyers
 Ann Fertig
 Charlie Sippel
 Family of Joyce Moyer (E. Tice)
 Family of Phil Sacco (J. Deeter)



Please continue to pray for: Corrine & Josh Coward, Jim Gruber, Jim Hepler, Annette Houser, James Houser Sr. (A. Berger), Grace Johnson (A. Johnson), John Kimmel, 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), Debbie Moyer (C. Carl), 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 Neumeister Family - James & Sandy
- The Walter Family - Renee, Ryan & Jordan
- The Anczarski Family - Joseph & Barbara



6



Spaghetti Supper

Saturday, May 20, 2023

Sponsored by
Christ's United Lutheran Church Men
437 Airport Road, Ashland, PA 17921

~Dine in or Take out ~

Bake  Sale

Sponsored by WELCA

DONATIONS NEEDED

- _____ Cakes
- _____ 12 or 24 Pack Soda (Any brand or flavor)
- _____ 24 Pack Bottled Water
- _____ Cash Donation

Donations may be placed on the center island in the kitchen. Please attach your name to your donation. All donations must be in no later than **SUNDAY, May 14**. Baked goods may be brought in on Friday, May 19th, between 8:00 a. m. & 4:00 p.m. Baked goods may also be brought in before noon on Saturday prior to the dinner.

Please return this sheet to the church office or place it in the box located on the table in the narthex.

Name _____

Phone _____

The CULC Messenger
God's Work, Our Actions





SPAGHETTI SUPPER

**SATURDAY, MAY 20, 2023
3:00-6:00PM**

Christ's United Lutheran Church

437 Airport Road, Ashland

(570) 875-1591, www.christsunited.org

Sponsored by Lutheran Church Men's Group

Adults: \$12.00

Children under 12: \$5.00

Dinner Includes:

Spaghetti, Meatballs

Tossed Salad,

Bread & Butter

Dessert

Beverage

Limited tickets will be sold at the door. Buy your tickets from LCM members, or call the Church Office.

Bake Sale sponsored by WELCA
Everyone Welcome!



BAKE SALE



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.



**Christ's United Garden Club
Plant Exchange
May 7-21**

If you have an abundance of perennials in your garden at home and would like to share some, please bring them into the church. Spring is a great time to divide those perennials! We will have a table set up where you can drop plants off and also take other plants that you may not have in your garden at home. Anyone is welcome to participate and take plants if interested. Some plants may also be used in the new prayer garden, depending on space available.

Thank you for your support!

Erik Tice



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MAY BIRTHDAYS

- 3 Brian Wetzel
- 4 Ann Marie Dillman
Tina Wolfe
- 6 Bryonna Bolich
- 7 Brittany Harhigh
Cory Lindenmuth
Gary Weinreich
Devan Fetterolf
- 8 Muoi Cunningham
Taryn Wilson
- 9 Joan Wolfgang
Erin Werner
- 10 Nina Britton
Katelyn Houser
Joshua Smith
Logan Walacavage
- 11 Cole Johnson
George Kosmisky
Kevin Sweinhart
- 12 Patricia Hepler
Jonas McGrath
- 14 Christine Klouser

- 15 Ralph Johnson
Robert Sweinhart
Benjamin Towey
- 16 Susan Edmonson
Jeff Hostetter
Beau Little
- 17 Kelly Dziadosz
- 18 Eli Rothermel
- 19 Barbara Anczarski
Michael Hudock
Steve Wilson
- 21 Sophia Wessner
- 22 Kaiden Dillman
Derek Whritenour
- 23 Chase Lower
- 25 Cory Weikel Jr.
Dustin Wolfgang
- 27 Jason Brown
Sarah Stehr
Amy Wahalec
- 31 Mark Stump



Wind, fire & spirit

Acts 2 describes the amazing events of Pentecost, when the apostles received the Holy Spirit.

Directions: The last letter(s) of each word is the beginning letter of the next. Fill in the missing words to complete Acts 2:1-4, NIV.

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. HEAV [] [] | 6. OGETHE [] [] |
| 2. [] ABLE [] | 7. ES [] |
| 3. AY OF PENTECOS [] [] | 8. ONGUE [] [] |
| 4. ONGUE [] [] | 9. A [] |
| 5. PIRI [] [] | 10. IND [] [] |



“When the _____³ came, they were all _____⁶ in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent _____¹⁰ came from _____¹ and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They _____⁹ what seemed to be _____⁴ of fire that separated and came to _____⁷ on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy _____⁵ and began to speak in other _____⁸ as the Spirit _____² them.”

ACTS 2:1-4, NIV

Answer: 1. heaven, 2. enabled, 3. day of Pentecost, 4. tongues, 5. Spirit, 6. together, 7. rest, 8. tongues, 9. saw, 10. wind

The next WELCA meeting will be on
May 3rd at 6:00 pm.
All women are invited to attend.



MAY ANNIVERSARIES



Come glorify God together

Don't use summer as an excuse to skip church! By gathering in corporate worship, we obey God's command, become equipped for Christian living, and minister to our fellow pilgrims. Consider these tips for engaging in corporate worship.

First, show up — in person if you can. Examine your heart and your motivation for attending church. Lift up your eyes from earthly matters to focus on God.

Come prepared. Do you need to confess anything or remove any hindrance? As you worship, consider how each part of the service displays the gospel: greeting, singing, confessing, reading Scripture, hearing Bible-based teaching, praying, giving and communing.

Be careful not to compartmentalize corporate worship as separate from the rest of life. Instead, consider how you'll carry the experience into the coming week. Come ready to receive; then let that overflow fuel you for the days ahead. Come prepared to participate, knowing that worshiping together is a rehearsal for heaven. But most importantly? Just come.

—Monica L. Wilkinson

05/04/85	Ted & Penny Shadle
05/10/08	Robert & Jessica Nagle
05/14/05	Allen & Cheryl Klinger
05/16/14	Chad & Natasha Weikel
05/18/02	Todd & Kim Walacavage
05/19/73	Dale & Holly Bolich
05/20/12	Ryan & Jodi MacNamara
05/21/88	William & Tammy Harris
05/22/22	Richard & Helen Shoup
05/27/93	Steve & Bernice Wilson
05/27/17	Bryon & Jessica Wallace
05/28/83	Ken & Tammy Dengler
05/28/83	Kenneth & Kimberly Zweizig
05/31/03	Daniel & Melissa Sisko



GERANIUMS



Day of Pentecost
May 28, 2023

If you wish to order Geraniums for Sunday, May 28th, please sign up on the bulletin board. The cost of each Geranium is \$5.50. Checks should be made payable to Christ's United.

Deadline to order is Sunday, May 7th.





Are you or is someone you know graduating this year?

Please tell us about it! This includes all graduates from high school, college, or any higher education. We would like to include information about all our graduates in the June newsletter. Also, on Sunday June 5th we will be honoring all graduates as part of our worship service with a special Blessing. Please plan to attend.

Please have all information into the church office by May 15th for inclusion in the Newsletter and Bulletin.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

What school are you graduating from

Future Plans _____



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
- Palm for Palm Sunday Worship \$12.00



Altar Flowers Procedure:

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.



April 29, 2023 at 8:00 AM.

Come join us for the Highway Cleanup on Saturday April 29, 2023. We will meet at the church at 8:00 A.M. Everyone is welcome. The more help we have the quicker we can finish. We hope to see many of you there for this important ministry by CULC. Rain date is May 6.

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 ~

- May - WELCA
- 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 May:

Cereal & Oatmeal

Please place your donations in the shopping cart.

Thank You!

The next food distribution date is Thursday **May 11, 2023**



We Love Our VOLUNTEERS

Serving Our Community of Faith in May:



Date	Supply Pastor/ Worship Leader	Congregational Rep/ Announcements	Lector	Ushers	Communion Assistants	Acolyte(s)	Crucifer
May 7		Deb Price	Mark Vardell	Barb Stepanchick b Allen Johnson b Allen Johnson c/d Aaron Stepanchick so Becky Spencer g	John Towey AM Barb Stepanchick Angie Berger	Blake Olayo	Ava Hernandez
May 14			John Towey	—————→		Kayla Werner	
May 21			Barb Anezarski			Jacob Tice	
May 28 Day of Pentecost			Beth Andrews		Erik Tice AM Deb Price Becky Spencer	Remington Stehr	Nelson Berger

May 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 10:30 Seniors 6:00 WELCA 6:30 Choir Practice	4	5 Cinco De Mayo	6 Youth Group can crushing & Campfire @ Tices'
7 9:30 Worship w / Holy Communion 10:30 Fellowship Hour 10:45 Sunday School & Adult Sunday School	8 7:00 Church Council	9	10 10:30 Seniors 6:30 Choir Practice	11 10:00 – 11:30 Christ's Cupboard distribution  6:30 Garden Club	12	13
14 Mother's Day 9:30 Worship 10:45 Adult Sunday School	15	16	17 10:30 Seniors 6:30 Choir Practice	18	19	20 Armed Forces Day 3:00 - 6:00 Spaghetti Dinner
21 9:30 Worship 10:45 Sunday School	22 6:00 Social Ministry	23	24 8:30 Newsletter Assembly 10:30 Seniors 6:30 Choir Practice	25	26	27
28 Day of Pentecost 9:30 Worship w / Holy Communion  PENTECOST SUNDAY	29 Memorial Day	30	31 10:30 Seniors 6:30 Choir Practice			