

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

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ORGANIZATION
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October



The CULC Messenger
God's Work,
Our Actions

For
by
GRACE

you
have
been

saved
through faith.

EPHESIANS 2:8, NRSV

Join us for Worship - Sundays at 9:30 a.m.
Sunday School - October through May
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

October 2024

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CHURCH COUNCIL 2024

	Phone	Term Expires
Kay Berner President	570-875-1035	Feb. 2026
Ken Dengler Vice President	570-933-5144	Feb. 2025
Morgen Sweitzer Secretary	717-858-9824	Feb. 2026
Robert Carl	570-590-7281	Feb. 2025
Darlene Stank	570-875-1644	Feb. 2025
Barbara Stepanchick	570-875-1114	Feb. 2027
Janet Towey	270-205-3420	Feb. 2027
John Towey	270-205-2682	Feb. 2027
Michael Yoder	570-205-1701	Feb. 2026

Youth Representative - Maura Sweitzer

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 8:30 am- 4:30 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 Dennis Wolfe 570-875-9085
Financial Secretary Christine Brennan 570-875-0720

Status of Accounts as of August 31

Total amount in checking account: \$144,867.87.

Amount needed in offerings per month to meet our
2024 Annual Budget of \$203,168.00 is \$16,930.00.

Income for August was \$7,367.95.

Expenses for August were \$5,693.23,
resulting in a net income of \$1,674.72.

Benevolence for August was \$1,166.00.



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 under
gird our program and the
maintenance of our facilities as it
encourages improved stewardship.*

Christian symbol



CHRISTIAN FLAG — Dating to the early 20th century, the Christian flag represents all of Christianity, though it's been used primarily in the Americas and Africa. The red Latin cross symbolizes Jesus' blood shed on Calvary to grant us eternal life. The blue background represents Christ's faithfulness even unto death, as well as our baptism into Christ. The white field signifies Jesus' purity, nonviolence and surrender to God's will, plus the peace we gain by surrendering ourselves to Christ.



22

Member's Message by Kay Berner



As I was preparing to write this article for the newsletter, I happened to look outside my window and noticed the changes around me. The days are getting shorter and the temperatures are much cooler at night. The leaves on the trees are beginning to change from green to red, yellow and orange. And in some cases, are even beginning to fall to the ground. It's that time of the year again. Autumn has arrived. The lazy days of summer are behind us and the crisp, colorful days of fall have just begun.

Now I love the spring and the fall and the colorful changes that appear in the world around us, but I am not looking forward to the cold, dark days of winter that lie ahead. Change in the seasons is common for those of us who live in the northeastern part of this country, and we have learned to deal with it. For in every season there is something new to behold. God has certainly given us a beautiful world to enjoy.

Now change is inevitable for us all as we travel through this life that God has given to us. Some changes are wonderful and others not so good, but all change can be beneficial. Change helps us to grow as human beings. Here at Christ's United we have faced many changes over the past few years, and we have faced them together with the help of God.

And now we are embarking again on a time of change. For those of you who attended church on September 22, you had the privilege to vote on calling a new pastor to lead us here at Christ's United. Pastor Brian Beissel has agreed to accept the call and will begin his ministry with us on November 1. I look forward to worshipping with him, and I ask that all of you who are reading this article to welcome him into our family of faith.



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



And like the seasons, change has again come to us here at Christ's United. With the help of God we can embrace this change and use it to help us to grow in our faith in God and in our service to the community around us. Let us make this change be a good one. One that helps us to increase our love for one another as Christ first loved us.

Yours in Christ, Kay Berner



The Annual Budget meeting will take place on Sunday, November 10th following 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.

?? ? Bible Quiz ? ?

When Jesus asks a Samaritan woman for a drink, at which site related to the ancient Israelites is he resting?

- A. the edge of the Jordan River
- B. beside the Red Sea
- C. Jacob's well
- D. the Pool of Bethesda



Answer: C (See John 4:6.)



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

437 Airport Road (Gordon)
Ashland, PA 17921

Monday, September 30, 2024
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!



Saturday, September 28th

The fall highway clean up of 2024.

Meet at the church at 8am.

Gloves, an orange vest, and trash bags are provided. Rain date will be October 5th.

All help will be greatly appreciated.





Common ground

"Christianity was never intended to be a solo walk with God," says pastor Jeremy Basset. "A conversion to Christianity is also incorporation in the body of Christ, the church."

That's a fitting reminder as we observe World Communion Sunday in October. Christians don't take Holy Communion alone; the very name of this sacrament refers to unity with God and others. We don't baptize ourselves. We don't learn Scripture or Christian theology and history alone. We can't have Christian fellowship by ourselves.

The New Testament is clear that one cannot be a solitary Christian. We are members of Christ's body (Ephesians 5:30) and "belong to the family of believers" (Galatians 6:10, NIV). As you gather for worship and receive Holy Communion, thank God for "our common salvation" (Jude 3, ESV) granted to all followers of Jesus.



Halloween is quickly approaching. We will hold our Trunk or Treat event on Sunday, October 27th from 5:00 - 8:00 p.m. Sign up sheets will be posted on the Youth Bulletin Board for "Trunkers", candy donations and volunteers to help with the event. Sign up or call the church office if you would like to help, or plan to be a "Trunker."

Thank you,
Trunk or Treat Committee



Council Highlights

Church Council Highlights From September

- Sunday School will be starting in October and will be held on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month.
- Chicken BBQ Dinner sponsored by Lutheran Church Men is scheduled for September 21, 2024 with a bake sale sponsored by WELCA.
- Finance Committee is planning a budget meeting within the next week or two.
- The Prayer Garden has been cleaned up and it looks good.
- Letter to Congregation Re: Pastoral Candidate to be mailed Friday September 6, 2024. Candidate will lead the worship service on September 22, to be followed by a meet and greet and a vote. Ballots will be provided.



October Council Contact of the month is John Towey.

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 John, he can be reached at 570-205-2682.



Council Member
of the Month



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.



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.

Sept.29 – Leroy Berner (D. Berner)

Tim Koppenhaver

Jarred Carl (R. Carl)

Nicole Price

Family of Lloyd Hampton

Sept. 22 – Leroy Berner (D. Berner)

Dawn Huntzinger (E. Tice)

Carl Hoy (E. Tice)

Janet Krise (D. Berner)

Gail Levengood (Mark Levengood's mother) (E. Werner)

Terry Shilling

Everyone affected by the closing of Tri-State (A. Berger)

Harper Presto (J. Young)

Pork & Sauerkraut Supper

Saturday, October 19, 2024

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

DONATIONS NEEDED;

_____ #10 Can of Applesauce

_____ Cakes, Cookies, Brownies, or Cup 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, OCTOBER 6th**. Baked goods may be brought in on Friday, October 18th, between 9:00 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 _____





Pork & Sauerkraut Supper

Sponsored by the Lutheran Church Men

Saturday, October 19, 2024

3:00 – 6:00 pm

~Eat In or Take Out~

Christ's United Lutheran Church
437 Airport Road, Ashland

Dinner Includes:

Pork & Sauerkraut

Mashed Potatoes

Applesauce

Bread & Butter

Dessert

Beverage

(Hot Dog available as substitute for pork)

Adults: \$12.00

Children age 12 & under: \$5.00

Ticket information: Call 570-875-1591
(Limited tickets available at the door)



Sponsored by WELCA

Sept. 15 – Mary Ellen Coulter (D. Zaharick)

Beth Dean (D. Zaharick)

Sissy McAndrew (P. Dziczek)

Sept. 8 – John Monroe (V. Brown)

Connie Weinreich

Dave Fetterolf (C. Weinreich)

Sarah Klinger (C. Weinreich)

Families of Jeanette Zerby (K. Berner)

Kelly Kline (D. Zaharick)

Please continue to pray for: Corrine & Josh Coward, Jim Gruber, Annette Houser, Jack Houser, Jim Houser Sr., Jim Houser Jr., Jenny Kosmisky, Barbara Liem, Gail Lorady, Pearl & Carl Lute, Dianna Monaghan, Jane Pennypacker, Heidi Walsh, Cheryl Varndell (M. Varndell), Kayla Werner

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

And Friends: Michele & Amber Adams, Michelle Ambrose, Robert Beecher, Donald Bulla, Ed Emerich, Joe Ferraro Jr., Bob Griffiths, Cathy Groody, Dan Grow, Ann Helwig, Minah Horan, Beverly Kane, Tracy Maurer, Lisa Metz-inger, Angie Romberger, Bailey Romberger, Samantha Schifano, Sarah (Herb) Shanks (T. Wolfe), Elizabeth Smith & family, Pastor Sunny Stock, Elaine Stone, Linda (Herb) Szuler (T. Wolfe), Joe Towey, Rose Varndell, Karyssa Wenrich, Bev Wolfgang

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 Brennan Family - Carol

The Rock Family - Diane

The Wolfgang Family - Helen & Steven



OCTOBER

Birthdays

		15	Brandon Hood
			Nicole Hood
			Connor Hoover
4	Lowell Martin		James Lavelle
5	David Cunningham, Jr.	17	Terry Neumeister
	Joshua Phelan		Autumn Peifer
6	Tammy Buhay	18	Ryan Walter
	William Dillman	19	Jennifer Bixler
	Trever Harhigh		Judy Fritz
	George Sterling		Jacob Klinger
	Brooke Wolfe Maurer		Sandy Miller
7	Angie Lucas		Maryann Wolfgang
	Forrest Shadle	20	Robert Liem
8	Francis Lally		Patti Kaufman
10	Melanie Bendinsky	22	Blake Olayo
	Barry Martin	24	Francis Lally, Jr.
	Cole Young	25	Carrie Hummel
11	Dylan Buhay		Donna Wallace
	Michael McNeal	27	Jennifer Deeter
	Danielle White	28	Nancy Kessler
13	Jessica Wallace		Salina Krah
	Mia Burke	29	Cathy Troutman
	Aidan Lazor	31	Tara Houser
	Chad Weikel		
14	Michael Boyer		
	Tekla Kranzel		
	Anna Neumeister		
	Kelsey Blyler		



SAVED BY GRACE

Leaders of the early church discussed whether newly converted Gentiles must keep the Law of Moses. How did Peter answer?

Directions: Cross out every third letter. Then write the remaining letters in the blanks below to complete Acts 15:11, NIV.

NO/WEGBEKLIBEVGEITIYS
TUHRCOUJGHRTHOEGPRAH
CEIOFXOUKRLHORCDJSESP
USGTHWATYWEOARBESPAVLED
RJUCSTQASHTHBEYFAROE



" ____!"

_____ " Acts 15:11, NIV



Answer: "No! We believe it is through the grace of our Lord Jesus that we are saved, just as they are." Acts 15:11, NIV



All are welcome to attend the
Women of the ELCA's
next meeting on
Wednesday, October 2, 2024
6:00 PM



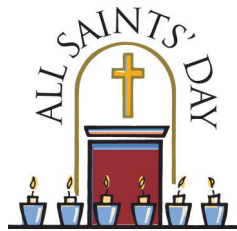
LUNCH BUNCH
Thursday, October 24 - we're traveling to
Front Street Station
2 Front Street, Northumberland.

We're meeting at the restaurant for 1:00 p.m.
Sign up on the bulletin board for making reservations and
arranging transportation

THANK YOU to everyone who donated school kit supplies
and monetary donations. Along with the Thrivent Action Card funds,
50 school kits were assembled. **Thank you.**

Sunday, Nov. 3

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 5, 2023). 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 Sunday, October 27th.

Name: _____

Date of Death: _____

Requested by: _____



10/02/82	Keith & Brenda Yoder
10/02/99	Stephen & Wendy Harhigh
10/05/85	Gerald & Cathy Stutzman
10/05/07	Brian & Brandy Bolich
10/06/62	Ivan & June Sweinhart
10/07/95	James & Michelle Lavelle
10/11/97	John & Maryann Wolfgang
10/12/19	Jason & Kimberly Miller
10/13/84	Joseph & Barbara Anczarski
10/16/76	Dennis & Tina Wolfe
10/17/09	Samuel & Kelly Troup
10/18/58	Don & Laray Klinger
10/22/05	Dean & Tammy Leshner
10/25/80	Gregg & Lois Sterling
10/25/08	Bill & Mindy Burke
10/29/11	Wesley & Kelly Long

2024 Sponsorships

The sponsorship sign up sheets are 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.

The CULC Messenger
God's Work, Our Actions



Harvest Home

As we welcome the cooler air and the farmers are bringing in the Harvest from the fields, Christ's United will be celebrating Harvest Home on October 13th. Please bring in non-perishable food items on October 6th or 13th to stock "Christ's Cupboard" to help those in need. We are especially in need of the following items: canned fruit, soup, boxed potatoes, sweet potatoes, juice and canned vegetables. We have also applied for a Thrivent Financial Action Team grant to help purchase food. There will be a table in the Narthex for your donations. Thank you!



ENDOWMENT SCHOLARSHIP

ATTENTION HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES: ARE YOU ATTENDING POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION PROGRAMS (college, university, trade school, nursing/medical school, business school, ENTERING THE MILITARY SERVICE, OR ARE STARTING A JOB?

The Endowment Fund Committee is accepting requests for the 2024 scholarships of \$500 for full time students/military service and \$100 for employed graduates.

ADULT MEMBERS WHO HAVE ENROLLED IN POST SECONDARY PROGRAMS ARE ALSO ELIGIBLE FOR THE SCHOLARSHIP.

Active members of the congregation are eligible to receive a scholarship by submitting a letter of request by OCTOBER 1st. to a committee member: Terry Ambrose, Carla Mae Carl, Becky Spencer, Terry Shilling, or Jo-Ann Young.

The letter should include: Your name and address, name of the school attending, or military branch, or employer, your status (freshman, senior, etc), field of study/certification or degree, and projected time of graduation.

Please be advised, you must be an ACTIVE MEMBER of the congregation and be present on December 1st when scholarships are given out during the worship service.



Pray for Our College Students

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SUNDAY SCHOOL RESUMES

"Learning Series - Discovering Jesus in the Old Testament"

Led by Erik Tice

Join us as we look at a creative devotional study experience titled "Discovering Jesus in the Old Testament". **ALL are WELCOME!**
(We will meet in the library immediately following worship.)

YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL classes will begin on October 6th and will be held on the first and third Sundays of each month following worship. All children are welcome and encouraged to attend.

2024-2025 CONFIRMATION CLASS

Taught by Mark Varndell for students in 7th & 8th grade or older who have not yet been Confirmed. Classes are held on the first and third Sundays of each month following worship. Please contact the church office and let us know you will be attending.



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.

~ 2024 ~

October—Church Council
November - Social Ministry
December - Evangelism/
 Endowment/Stewardship



We will be collecting the following items for October:

Stuffing Mix & Gravy

Please place your donations in the shopping cart.

Thank You!

The next food distribution date is
 Thursday
October 10, 2024

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.



Serving Our Community of Faith in October:



Date	Supply Pastor/ Worship Leader	Congregational Rep/ Announcements	Lector	Ushers	Communion Assistants	Acolyte(s)	Crucifer
October 6	Rev. Mindy Heppe	Ken Dengler	Vivian Brown	Kay Berner b Allen Johnson c/d Terry Neumeister so	Erik Tice AM Beth Andrews Dennis Wolfe	Nelson Berger	Joey McAndrew
October 13	Rev. Mindy Heppe	Angie Berger	Becky Spencer			Eli Pennypacker	_____
October 20	Pastor Ben Scott		Jacob Tice			Sawyer Smith	John Wagner Tag-a-Long
October 27 Reformation	Rev. Mindy Heppe		Erik Tice		John Towey AM Kay Berner Donna Wallace	Kaitlyn Werner	Bianca McAndrew



October 2024



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
		9:00 Knaughty Knotters	10:30 Seniors 6:00 WELCA	6:30 Choir Practice 6:30 Garden Club		8:00 Highway Clean-Up Rain date
6 World Communion Sunday	7	8	9	10	11	12
9:30 Worship w/Holy Communion 10:30 Social Hour 10:45 Sunday School, Confirmation Class & Learning Series "Discovering Jesus..."	7:00 Church Council	9:00 Knaughty Knotters	10:30 Seniors	10:00 – 11:30 Christ's Cupboard 6:30 Choir Practice 		
13 Harvest Home	14 Columbus Day	15	16	17	18	19
9:30 Worship 10:45 Learning Series - "Discovering Jesus..." 		9:00 Knaughty Knotters	10:30 Seniors	6:30 Choir Practice		3:00 - 6:00 Pork & Sauerkraut Dinner 
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
9:30 Worship 10:45 Sunday School, Confirmation & Learning Series - "Discovering Jesus..."		9:00 Knaughty Knotters	10:30 Seniors	6:30 Choir Practice		
27 Reformation	28	29	30	31 Halloween		
9:30 Worship w/Holy Communion 10:45 Learning Series - "Discovering Jesus..." 		9:00 Knaughty Knotters	8:30 Newsletter Assembly 10:30 Seniors	6:30 Choir Practice		