

August 2026

Christ Lutheran Church Christ Chronicles

Mark your calendars!

- **Bible Study** is held every Thursday at 10:00 am both in person and online via zoom.
- **Evening Bible Study** will have started and will continue every Wednesday at 7:00pm. All are welcome to join, either in person or via Zoom. Please contact the office if you need the Zoom link!
- **Food Pantry** is also held the first and third Wednesdays of each month. We are in need of donations due to being used heavily. Hours are 9:00am-10:30am.
- **Choir practice** will resume on Wednesday September 9th at 11:00am. Any questions contact Sue Hand or the office.
- **Wild Church** will be held at Weiser State Forest the 1st Sunday over every month at 4:00pm and also the 3rd Sunday at Stormy Acers at 4:00pm. If interested please contact the office or Pastor John.
- **Grace Notes** will meet on Thursdays around 6:30. If you are interested in joining the band please contact Dave for more info: daverepecki@yahoo.com or 570-401-7662
- **Sunday School** will be resuming on Sunday, September 20th downstairs from 10:00am-11:00am. Pre-k (potty trained) through 6th grade. Please contact the office for more info!
- **Confirmation Class** will resume Sunday, September 20th in the library with Pastor at 11:30am-12:30pm. 7th grade and older welcome! Contact office for more info!
- **Men's Breakfast** will be held on the 3rd Wednesday of every month at Terra Cottage, Lake Harmony at 9:00am.
- **Community Breakfast** is held on the 3rd Sunday of every month! All are welcome to join and cost is by donations as you are able!
- **Ladies Luncheon** will be held on the 3rd Monday of every month at Terra Cottage, Lake Harmony at noon!

Altar Flowers

Flowers are available to be sponsored on throughout September and October. If you are interested in sponsoring one week, please sign up in the Narthex or contact the office. The price is \$27 for vases.

August Weekly Offerings:

These amounts are what we collect in the offering plate and also simply giving.

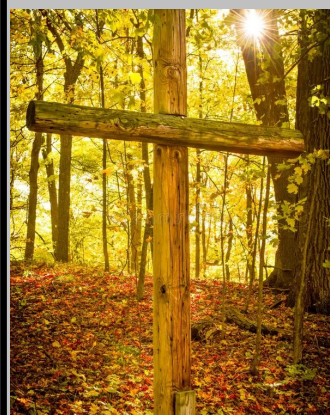
August 7th- \$2,482.37

August 9th- \$1,528.34

August 26th- \$1,520.72

August 23rd- \$1,785.37

August 30th- \$1,560.37



"Describes the prosperous person as a tree planted by streams, yielding fruit and unfading leaves."
Psalm 1:3

"Calls wisdom a tree of life for those who hold fast."
Proverbs 3:18

"States the righteous flourish like palm trees and grow like cedars."
Psalm 92:12

"As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease."
Genesis 8:22

"but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life."
John 4:14

WORSHIP SERVICES are held every Sunday at 9:00 am
Sunday School and Confirmation Classes will begin Sunday, September 20th!

Important Information

From the Food Pantry:

Thank you to those of you that donated food or money to our food pantry recently. We are giving out an average of 25 food boxes each pantry day and our recipients are expressing gratitude. This is just a reminder that the need is ongoing and any and all donations are greatly appreciated. Here is a list of items we can always use: Cereal Boxed, potatoes or stuffing, Spaghetti Sauce Canned vegetables Pasta Canned tuna Rice/Noodle packet or bag of rice Peanut butter Macaroni and cheese, Jelly, Canned beans, Crackers, Canned fruit Pancake mix, Canned soup, Syrup. Your generosity is always greatly appreciated! Thank you.

From the Choir:

You may have noticed that our choir is in need of female singers. Ladies, If you like to sing and can hold a tune, we could really use your help. Gents are welcome too, of course. The choir is not rehearsing over the summer but we are still singing on our assigned Sundays. We hold a short practice at 8:30 am. See Sue Hand (570-325-4888) if interested or talk to any choir member. Thank you.

From the Band:

If interested,
please contact Dave Repecki at (570) 401-7662.
They practice every Thursday evening at 6:30pm. Locations do change, so for more information,
please contact Dave at daverpecki@yahoo.com or call 570-401-7662.

Sunday School and Confirmation Classes:

Classes are starting on Sunday September 20th!

Wild Church:

Wild Church is a return to nature as a spiritual practice. We gather in nature for prayer, meditation, songs, wandering and wondering and communion with nature and with each other. Services have restarted! Every one is welcome to join!

Memorial garden update:

dedication was held on May 31. The burial area is currently in need of weeding. The committee will take care of cleaning this up. We are also waiting for the installation of the name plaque sign. An update will go out once we have notice of delivery.

Property Committee:

As part of our ongoing effort to care for and maintain our church property, Council will be working with the organizations that currently use our building. Council plans to meet with representatives from these organizations to review basic maintenance and cleaning expectations and discuss how we can work together to keep our shared spaces clean, organized, and well cared for.

A list of basic requirements for organizations using the church will be provided, including expectations for the upkeep of closets, upstairs and downstairs rooms, the kitchen, and both upstairs and downstairs bathrooms. Our goal is to ensure that everyone who uses our facility helps contribute to maintaining it as a welcoming and well-kept space for our congregation and community.

Outreach & Community Care:

- Community Breakfast:
- Pastor has trained Melody and Sally on home communion— If you know of any one who is in need please contact the office or Pastor.
- Homebound: Pastor is making visits.

Worship & Music Committee:

Two council members and Pastor attended the 2026 Synod Assembly. A new bishop was elected, the first female bishop in the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod. Discussion centered on synod restructuring, potential staff reductions, and the proposed "6-2-6-1" plan. It was also reported that 50–70 individuals are currently pursuing lay ministry certification, with two candidates moving forward to seminary in preparation for ordained ministry.

Council Meeting Highlights

Committees

Finance Committee

- ⇒ July Income: \$7,229.80
- ⇒ July Expenses: \$14,487.41
- ⇒ resulting in a shortfall of \$7,257.61
- ⇒ A deposit of \$3,230.00 from July was not deposited until August. While including this deposit brings the monthly figures closer together, we still experienced a shortfall of \$4,027.61 for the month.
- ⇒ Council is continuing to monitor the income and expenses and began working on the 2027 budget.

- **Youth Council Representative:** Stacy Bos as joined council as the Youth Representative.
- **Youth Group** – Pastor is currently working on reorganizing the Youth Group and planning for future activities and opportunities for our youth.
- **Youth Spiritual & Craft Night** meetings scheduled to resume in September.
- **Investments:** Experienced a small increase.
- **Attendance** – We're seeing encouraging growth in attendance at our in-person services!
- **Attendance:** July 2025 - 47 : July 2026 - 55
- **Facebook**– Events have been added to the CLC Facebook page.
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- **Homebound** - Pastor has been meeting with our homebound members. If you know of anyone needing assistant please reach out to the church office. Sally and Melody are starting home communion.
- **Food Pantry Here to Help, Here to Serve**
At Christ Lutheran Church, we believe that no one in our community should go hungry. If you are struggling to put food on the table, please know that our Food Pantry is here for you—open to all who are in need, no questions asked. Our pantry is not government-funded; it is a labor of love, stocked entirely by the generosity of our neighbors to support those in need. If you would like to help, donations of non-perishable food items are always welcome and greatly appreciated. Together, we can make a difference and ensure that no one in our community goes without. Thank you for being a part of this mission, whether as a recipient or a supporter.
- **Prayer Chain – Help Needed!**
Our Prayer Chain is an important ministry that provides comfort and support through the power of prayer. We are still looking for someone to assist with this effort. If you feel called to help coordinate and share prayer requests with our church community, please consider volunteering. Your support can make a meaningful difference in the lives of those in need of prayer. If you're interested or would like more information, please contact the church office. Thank you for helping us lift others in prayer!
- **Prayer Shawl Ministry – Sharing Comfort & Love**
Our Prayer Shawl Ministry is a beautiful way to share God's love and comfort with those in need. Each shawl is lovingly handcrafted and blessed before being given to individuals facing illness, loss, or difficult times. These shawls serve as a tangible reminder that they are wrapped in prayer, support, and God's Grace. If you or someone you know would benefit from a prayer shawl, or if you'd like to contribute by knitting or crocheting, please contact the church office. Together, we can offer warmth, hope, and healing—one stitch at a time.
- **Youth Group – Join the Fun and Fellowship!**
Our Youth Group is a place for young people to grow in faith, build friendships, and serve the community—all while having fun! Whether it's games, service projects, Bible studies, or special outings, there's always something exciting happening. All youth are welcome to join us as we learn, laugh, and grow together in Christ. Stay tuned for upcoming events and gatherings!
For more information, contact the church office. We can't wait to see you there!

Council Meeting Highlights

Connecting Our Community Through Communication

We are working to increase awareness and participation in church activities by improving how we share information with our congregation and community. A monthly schedule of events will be posted on the front entrance and both lower doors to help keep members and visitors connected to all that is happening at our church.

Ministry Teams:

- ♦ **Social Ministry** - The various social ministries are going well.
- ♦ **Visitation Team** - Pastor is in the process of setting this up. If you are interested in participating, please reach out to the church office.
- ♦ **Youth Group** - We are looking for a Youth Group Leader. If anyone is interested in this position, please reach out to the office. In the meantime, council is working on organizing some events in the upcoming months. Suggestions are always welcome.
- ♦ **Youth Craft and Scripture** - This program is on break for the summer and will resume in September when Sunday School begins. The event will be held during one Sunday School class each month and will be open to all youth. Details will go out closer to the start of the school year.
- ♦ **Homebound** - Members are watching services via Facebook. Pastor made home visits with everyone for Easter
- ♦ **Facility Assessment**- A recent facility self-assessment of a portion of our church property revealed several areas that are in need of attention. In response, Council has requested that a complete assessment of the property be conducted in the coming month. Once the assessment is completed, Council will review the findings at its next meeting and begin addressing areas of concern based on priority and need. Our goal is to be proactive in maintaining and caring for our church property and ensuring that necessary repairs and improvements are addressed appropriately.
- ♦ **Part-Time Maintenance Position**- Council is exploring the possibility of creating a part-time maintenance position to help meet the ongoing needs of our church building and grounds. With the size of our facility, having someone available to assist with routine maintenance could help us stay ahead of repairs and keep our property looking its best.
The position could include landscaping, routine repairs, general maintenance, and assisting with cleaning when needed. Council discussed the potential for this to provide a more cost-effective approach to both interior and exterior maintenance by handling routine needs in-house and reducing the need to hire outside services. Council also discussed possible scheduling and budgeting options for the position. The topic of a sexton position was discussed and will be revisited at next month's meeting as more information becomes available.
- ♦ **Exploring Solar Energy**- Council has begun exploring whether solar panels could be a beneficial and cost-effective investment for our congregation. Solar energy has the potential to reduce long-term operating costs while supporting responsible and sustainable use of our resources.
Council will be moving forward with a full analysis and proposal to better understand the potential costs, savings, and long-term benefits for our church. The findings will be presented to the congregation at the 2026 Congregational Meeting in November, where we can discuss the possibilities and consider whether this would be a worthwhile investment for the future of our church

Outreach:

Family Promise— send requests to individuals for donations

Homebound is good.

Food Panty is in need of donations!

Community Breakfast - Our community breakfasts are going wonderfully! We've had an amazing number of volunteers, great feedback, and generous donations.

Thank you to everyone for your support.

Next Council Meeting

CLC Council Meeting - Tuesday September 15th, 2026 at 7:00 pm

Collaborating with St. John's Lutheran Church

We are working closely with St. John's on joint events and services, as well as exploring ways to better meet the needs of our local community. Together, we aim to strengthen our outreach and community presence.

Visioning Committee

Pastor is in the process of organizing a Visioning Committee. The purpose of this committee will be focused on shaping the long-term direction of the church. They help define the church's mission and goals, plan for future growth, and ensure that all efforts align with the church's purpose.

2026 Investment Comparison		
	January 31	July 31
Thrivent Youth Fund	\$70,491.04	\$63,551.10
MCT Youth Fund		\$10,491.04
Total DA Thrivent Scholarship Fund	\$134,122.12	\$138,525.87
ELCA Endowment Fund	\$653,078.01	\$673,567.34
Thrivent Building Fund	\$41,267.61	\$42,617.71
Thrivent MSK Scholarship Fund	\$36,292.49	\$38,160.83
Total Investments	\$935,251.27	\$966,913.89

Financials

Full financial statement is available on the bulletin board in the narthex.

2026 Council Members

President/Worship—John Willaims beelee.williams@gmail.com
Vice President/Financials/Property - William Kovolenko wkovolenko@gmail.com
Treasurer/Financials – Anita Repecki anitarepecki@gmail.com
Secretary/Youth Member— Stacey Bos lovelystacybos@gmail.com
Council Member/Scholarships/Property - Luke Eggert lukeeggert123@gmail.com
Council Member/Property - John Strupcewski dj86@ptd.net
Council Member/Property - Serge Hill - shill60@ptd.net
Council Member- Jordan Behrens— jbehrens93@gmail.com