

May 2024

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.
- **Food Pantry** is also held the first and third Wednesdays of each month. We are in need of donations due to being used heavily.
- **Choir practice** is taking a break for the summer. They will meet on choir Sunday's at 8:30 if anyone would like to join them.
- **Wild Church** is going to be held on the first and third Wednesday every month. The first Wednesday will be held at the Church and the third Wednesday will be at Tom's house-102 Honeysuckle Lane, Lehighton, Pa 18235. Contact Pastor John if you would like to car pool.
- **Grace Notes** meets every Wednesday around 6:30. If you are interested in joining the band, consider checking them out at practice!

Altar Flowers

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

April Weekly Offerings:

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

April 7th- \$1,436.00

April 14th- \$ 994.22

April 21st- \$3385.52

April 28th- \$597.23

We celebrate with Ben Hanitsch, Jeremy Siegfried, and Colin Warren as they affirm their faith! Congratulations on your Confirmation!



*"Therefore I tell you, all things whatever you pray and ask for, believe that you have received them, and you shall have them."
Mark 11:24*

*"All things, whatever you ask in prayer, believing, you will receive."
Matthew 21:22*

*"Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, for you are receiving the end result of your faith, the salvation of your souls."
1 Peter 1:8-9*

*So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love.
1 Corinthians 13:13*

*Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another about yourselves.
Romans 12:10*

WORSHIP SERVICES are held every Sunday at 9:00 am
Sunday School and Confirmation Classes will be continued starting in the new school year

Important Information

From the Food Pantry:

We are averaging 25 boxes every 2 weeks with an estimated cost of \$30.00/box totaling @ \$750.00 every 2 weeks or \$1500.00/month. A HUGE THANK YOU for the congregational food donations we have been receiving. These donations are accounting for about half of the monthly needs. While all food donations are appreciated, the following is a list of the most common foods being distributed: Cereal, Canned Fruit, Macaroni and Cheese, Canned Beans (Pork & Beans), Pancake Mix, Syrup, Crackers, Jelly, Peanut Butter, Boxed Potatoes or Stuffing Mix, Rice/Pasta Packets, Pasta Sauce, Pasta, Soups, Ramen Noodles (Box of 12), Tuna, and Canned Vegetables. Please keep in mind as you go grocery shopping that our need is ongoing and you are able to help your neighbors in a very concrete way by buying extra each time you shop. If you see "Buy One, Get One Free" and only need one item, please take the free item and donate it to the pantry. If canned foods are 5/\$5.00 and you only need two, please consider buying 5 and donating 3. Every little bit helps to support this valuable ministry of our congregation. Thank you, Your Food Pantry Team



From the Choir:

Choir is taking a break for the summer. They will meet on choir Sunday's at 8:30am if anyone would like to join. If you are interested, please talk to Sue Hand (570-325-4888). Thank you.

Sunday School:

Sunday school is going to have it's last day on Sunday June 2nd at 10:00am. They will start back up in September.

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. We meet at 6PM on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month. Our regular meeting place for the 1st Wednesday of the month will be behind the church. On the 3rd Wednesday we will meet at the home of Tom Storm, 102 Honeysuckle Lane, Leighton. Tom has an old farm with many beautiful places to share in God's creation. But keep an eye on the church website for changes to the location. There are several places where we would like to meet to enjoy God's good gifts all around us.

Vacation Bible School:

Is in the planning stages and information will be sent out within the month of June!

Thank you to all who helped with church clean up!



Council Meeting Highlights

Commitments

Mission Support "Go Beyond 2023" (Benevolence)- budget of \$3,500 per year/\$875 per quarter
Family Promise - \$1200.00 per year/\$300.00 per quarter

Committees

Sunday school is coming to an end with the last day being Sunday, June 2nd
Vacation Bible School is in the planning stages.

Memorial Garden Committee

construction is underway. We are working on a PowerPoint to share with the congregation within the next few weeks. .

Finance Committee

Council is currently monitoring the financial concerns and working on solutions. Serge and Anita recently attended two President's Mission District meetings with other current and past council presidents. Top concerns across the area are similar to ours. Financials, regular attendance and bringing more youth into the church seem to be the normal concerns across the area. CLC council will be meeting with a neighboring council to discuss concerns, brainstorm and share ideas

Outreach Committee

- **Family Promise** - 2nd Quarter donation due 6/30. We currently have enough funds to cover this.
- **Homebound** - Pastor is making visits as needed
- **Food Pantry** is being used heavily. Thank you for the donations being received. The food donations have been accounting for approximately half of the community's need.
- **Prayer Shawl** is meeting regularly again.
- **Prayer Chain** - If you would like to add anyone to the list please contact John Fosdick by email at kalamity@ptd.net or names can be added at church.

Property Committee

- Grass Cutting has been established at a rate of \$300.00 for both the cemetery and church side. As in the past, this expense will be split between the church and the cemetery.
- Spring cleanup is complete. We had several volunteers assist with this project. Flower beds were spruced up and weeded to allow for new growth. A dumpster was delivered and within a few hours the volunteers had it full and ready for pick up. Thank you to all who assisted.
- Back lower door is repaired.
- Playground equipment has been repaired.
- Sewer line is in need of adjustment outside the back door area. This is scheduled to be completed 5/23/24.
- The back steps and the front entrance are in need of cleaning. Serge will take care of pressure washing both areas within the next few weeks.
- Garbage Bin has been cleaned out again. We ask that no loose trash is put in the bin!
- Water filters have been replaced by Serge and Warren. Thank you
- Some minor sanding/painting is needed in the bathroom. Serge will take care of this

Worship and Music Committee

Pastor will be cleaning up the cemetery and we will be planting flowers around the flagpole

Youth Group Pastor is working on scheduling a youth bike trip, whitewater rafting trip, night at the BCL pool, and other fun summer ideas!

Next Council Meeting June 18th at 7:00pm

Next Finance Meeting June 2nd after Service

Financials

Income is running under budget this year. Expenses are coming in close to budget.
See monthly balances below

	January	February	March	April	Monthly Budget
Total Income	\$10,479.65	\$7,542.93	\$9,854.50	\$10,185.66	\$11,619.17
Total Expense	\$14,369.75	\$16,786.42	\$10,960.01	\$12,565.41	\$13,154.93
	-\$3,890.10	-\$9,243.49	-\$1,105.51	-\$2,379.75	-\$1,535.76

Church Investments

Ameritrade Fulton				
Total Building Fund - HPS	\$323.09	\$323.09	\$323.09	\$323.09
Total MSK Scholarship Fund HPI	\$307.56	\$307.56	\$307.56	\$307.56
Total Ameritrade Fulton	\$641.81	\$641.81	\$641.81	\$641.81
Vanguard	\$71,370.67	\$75,214.69	\$77,623.29	\$74,207.98
Total DA Thrivent Scholarship Fund	\$143,876.03	\$145,714.20	\$125,164.19	\$121,508.10
ELCA Endowment Fund	\$571,884.31	\$578,335.89	\$596,030.42	**\$596,030.42
Thrivent Building Fund	\$33,557.53	\$33,960.32	\$34,642.73	\$33,629.78
Thrivent MSK Scholarship Fund	\$29,511.93	\$29,866.16	\$30,466.29	\$29,575.46
Total Investments	\$850,842.28	\$863,733.07	\$864,568.73	\$855,593.55

Full financial statement is available on the bulletin board outside the office.

2024 Council Members

President/Property –Serge Hill shill60@ptd.net

Vice President/Financials/Property - William Kovolenko wkovolenko@gmail.com

Treasurer/Financials – Anita Repecki anitarepecki@gmail.com

Secretary/Youth Member- Abby Kuhn abbyball89@icloud.com

Council Member/Scholarships/Property - Luke Eggert lukeeggert123@gmail.com

Council Member/Property - John Strupcewski dj86@ptd.net

Council Member/Worship - Meeghan Sloss meeghan.rossi7@gmail.com

Council Member/Worship - John Williams - beelee.williams@gmail.com