

# October 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** has restarted every Wednesday at 11:30am. All are welcome to join. Any questions please contact Sue Hand.
- **Wild Church** is on hold. We may hold a winter solstice service. Please keep an eye for any upcoming events.
- **Grace Notes** meets every Wednesday around 6:30. If you are interested in joining the band please contact Dave for more info: [daverepecki@yahoo.com](mailto:daverepecki@yahoo.com) or 570-401-7662
- **Sunday School** is every Sunday after church at 10:00am. Please contact the office with any questions or concerns.
- **Confirmation Class** started and is held every Sunday at 11:30am. All in 7th grade and older welcome. Please contact the office with any questions or concerns.
- **Ladies Luncheon** will be held on Monday, November 18th at 12:30pm at Terra Cottage in Lake Harmony. Please reach out to Pat Fosdick or sign up in the narthex.

### Altar Flowers

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

### September Weekly Offerings:

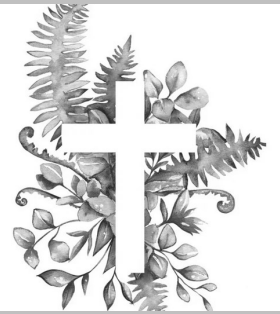
These amounts are what we collect in the offering plate and also simply giving.

**October 6th- \$1,828.28**

**October 13th- \$3,012.72**

**October 20th- \$6,331.32**

**October 27th- \$1,911.32**



*"Be strong and courageous, do not be discouraged, do not be afraid, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go"*  
Joshua 1:9

*"The Lord gives strength to his people; the Lord blesses his people with peace."*  
Psalm 29:11

*"In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead."*  
James 2:17

*"Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain."*  
1 Corinthians 15:58

*"Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth."*  
1 Corinthians 13:6

**WORSHIP SERVICES** are held every Sunday at 9:00 am  
**Sunday School and Confirmation Classes** have started! Please consider joining!

## Important Information

### From the Food Pantry:

Please help make Thanksgiving dinner boxes for local families in need in our community in one or two ways.  
Distribution day will be on Wednesday, November 20th during food pantry.

1. Make a monetary donation. 'Write Thanksgiving' on your envelope or mail to the church.
2. Purchase items from the list below and bring them to church or leave on the church's porch by Sunday November 17th.
  - Stuffing mix
  - Canned 940oz) yams
  - Turkey Gravy (jar or can)
    - Cranberry sauce
    - French fried onions
  - Cream of mushroom soup

As you give thanks for all your blessings, please remember those less fortunate. You will be doubly blessed.

### From the Choir:

Choir has started and is held every Wednesday at 11:30am.

If you are interested, please talk to  
Sue Hand (570-325-4888). Thank you.

### Sunday School and Confirmation Classes:

Sunday school is for grades Pre-K-6th at 10:00am-11:00am on Sundays

Confirmation classes is for 7th grade and older. Class will be 11:30am-12:30pm on Sundays.

Contact the office for more information!

### 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. Currently Wild Church is on hold. We may hold a winter solstice service. Please keep an eye for any upcoming events

### Memorial garden update:

We are getting closer to completing the Memorial garden project. As I am sure most of you have seen, we are currently working on the burial bed for the cremains and the next phase will be the walkway pavers and around the burial bed. Memorial pavers are now available for purchase. Engraving will be complete by Pennsylvania Monument Company out of Hazelton. If you are interested in purchasing a paver at the discussed price, please complete an order form from the church or by contacting Anita Repecki at [anitarepecki@gmail.com](mailto:anitarepecki@gmail.com) as soon as possible so we can get your order in on the first round of orders. Please note: Engraving prices will increase if completed after the installation of the stones at the memorial garden.



## 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

- Confirmation class began on Sunday, September 22. Had 4 attendees.
- Sunday school began on Sunday September 8th and currently has 10 kids.

### Memorial Garden Committee

- Anita is taking orders for memorial stones. Please contact her or the office with any questions.
- Moving into the next phase, building the burial wall. Unfortunately we are approximately \$3000 short on the funds to cover the next phase. The sales of the pavers will help to offset the expense. The contractor has offered to move forward with the phase as we raise the funds. Final phases will continue to be completed as the funds are raised.

### Finance Committee

- CLC is falling short on income each month. After a special meeting we had to discuss financial concerns, the conclusion is we need to "Breathe Life back into the Church". We will work towards increasing membership and weekly attendance through the following areas:
- Members can arrange for automatic contributions even when they are not present at weekly service.
- Increase children services during the school year. Going to look into 1 per month.
- Congregational Letter is being prepared and the 2025 Budget is available during office hours and Sunday mornings.
- Income and expenses are still below budget for the 2024 year. We are currently about \$20,000 behind where we need to be. With that being said, we are looking into other options moving into the 2025 year.
- On a positive note, all investments are performing well this year.

### Outreach Committee

- **Family Promise** - 4th Quarter donation due 12/31 - \$300.00. \$30.01 available toward the final donation
- **Homebound** - Pastor has been meeting with our homebound members. If you know of anyone needing assistant please reach out to the church office.
- **Food Pantry** is in great need of supplies/monetary donations. Second Harvest is not accepting new clients currently.
- **Prayer Shawl** is meeting regularly again. They will meet in the library on the 4th Sunday of each month after the 9:00am service. They will NOT meet in December.
- **Scholarship**— there should be 3 to 4 eligible students for the 2024-2024 school year.
- **Prayer Chain** - If you would like to add anyone to the list please contact John Fosdick by email at [kalamity@ptd.net](mailto:kalamity@ptd.net) or names can be added at church.

### Property Committee

- The Gutters have been cleaned and steeple lights replaced.
- Barbosa cleaned our septic tank and looked at the ongoing concern by the rear door. Suggestions were offered. Pastor is looking into this.

### Worship and Music Committee

- Choir has resumed practice every Wednesday at 11:30am.
- Band holds practices Wednesday evenings at 6:30pm

### Youth Group

- Youth Group meetings and outings will resume shortly.

**Next Council Meeting** November 19th at 7:00pm

## Financials

- Income ran @ \$900.00 less than budget
- Expenses ran @ \$2000 lower than budget
- Resulting being short about \$200.00 this month
- Update on investments: Ameritrade Fulton has been closed
- The Vanguard Youth Fund is in the process of being moved into a Thrivent account.

β) Church Investments		Thrivent	
ELCA Endowment	\$587,656.62	Building Fund Balance	\$ 36,797.19
Vanguard Deleo Fund Balance	\$ 81,599.39	MSK Scholar Fund Bal.	\$ 32,361.01
Ameritrade Balance (12-31)	\$ 641.81	DA Scholarship Fund	\$132,958.90

Total Ameritrade Fulton	\$ 708.24
Vanguard	\$ 84,865.53
Total DA Thrivent Scholarship Fund	\$ 132,952.90
ELCA Endowment Fund	\$ 603,815.78
Thrivent Building Fund	\$ 36,797.19
Thrivent MSK Scholarship Fund	\$ 32,361.01

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

### 2024 Council Members

**President/Property** –Serge Hill [shill60@ptd.net](mailto:shill60@ptd.net)  
**Vice President/Financials/Property** - William Kovolenko [wkovolenko@gmail.com](mailto:wkovolenko@gmail.com)  
**Treasurer/Financials** – Anita Repecki [anitarepecki@gmail.com](mailto:anitarepecki@gmail.com)  
**Secretary/Youth Member**- Abby Kuhn [abbyball89@icloud.com](mailto:abbyball89@icloud.com)  
**Council Member/Scholarships/Property** - Luke Eggert [lukeeggert123@gmail.com](mailto:lukeeggert123@gmail.com)  
**Council Member/Property** - John Strupcewski [dj86@ptd.net](mailto:dj86@ptd.net)  
**Council Member/Worship** - Meeghan Sloss [meeghan.rossi7@gmail.com](mailto:meeghan.rossi7@gmail.com)  
**Council Member/Worship** - John Williams - [beelee.williams@gmail.com](mailto:beelee.williams@gmail.com)