

THE EXPRESSION

August 2022 ~ NEWSLETTER



CHRIST'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
5330 Old Logan Ferry Road
Murrysville, PA 15668
(412) 795-1212

Pastor Wayne Gillespie
Email: office@christsmurrysville.org
Website: christsmurrysville.org
Administrator Assistant: Breana Howard

Services
Saturday Evening – 6:00 pm
Sunday Worship – 10:00 am
Sunday School – 9:00 am



From the Pastor

From the Give Thanks

“Be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody with your hearts to the Lord; always giving thanks for all things in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to our God and Father.” ~ Ephesians 5:18-20

Thanksgiving is often associated with the fourth Thursday in November and originated as a day for giving thanks and for celebrating the goodness of life by gathering for a meal of celebration. Many Americans believe that Thanksgiving was first celebrated in 1621 as a three-day feast attended by 90 Wampanoag people and 53 Pilgrims. George Washington asked Congress to set aside a day of Thanksgiving in 1789, but Thomas Jefferson chose to not observe it. Thanksgiving celebrations were intermittent until Abraham Lincoln proclaimed a national day of Thanksgiving in 1863. St. Paul encouraged the early Christians to give thanks for the blessings in their lives and for the ministry of others. St. Paul believed that it's important for churches to be marked with a spirit of thanksgiving just as he thought that the church needs to be a place

where people are lifted up, are built up and are encouraged in their lives of faith and service. We can express our appreciation by thanking people for their time and effort. We can build a community of encouragement and appreciation by thanking people who are standing on the front lines and joining hands in ministry. Our thankful appreciation can be shown when we send a card or offer our assistance. A spirit of thankfulness can be expressed as we support the ministry of our church by attending events and supporting ministries with our financial resources. A card or thank you note can brighten someone's day. And, of course, when we find ourselves giving thanks, we are reminded not only of the things that other people are doing, but also of the ways that God is blessing us, too. This Fall is going to be a busy and a good one, and I'm encouraging you to take a moment to express your thanks with a few kind words, a little note, a telephone message, or even an email message. You can, also, express your thanks by making a commitment to attend some of the special events we're planning, by deciding that it's time to bring your children back to Sunday School to encourage our teachers, by offering your financial support to our ministry during a time when money is a bit tight, and even by jumping in to lead or just lend a helping hand. We have many reasons to give thanks at Christ's Lutheran Church and as we enter into the busyness of the Fall season, let's take some time to express our thanks to those who are working so hard to keep our church moving in a healthy direction. Perhaps, you can send a short note to a Council member? Maybe you can stop by the Sacristy to thank those who take care of our Communion vessels after worship? Perhaps, you can express a kind word of thanks to those who are providing music, reading lessons, and even doing things like broadcasting our worship services, and unlocking and locking the building? Your expressions of thanks may arrive at just the right time, and they may even lift the spirit of a person who is trying his or her best during this challenging time in both our life and ministry. And, by the way, "Thank You" for your continued willingness to share your time, energy, and financial resources, so that the work of God can continue at Christ's Lutheran Church

Pastor Wayne



*Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday:
9:15 am - 2:00 pm*

5330 Old Logan Ferry Road, Murrysville, PA 15668

You can contact the office at office@christsmurrysville.org
or by calling 412-795-1212



Church Council Minute Highlights

July 21th, 2022

- Council voted to transfer some money from our Non-specified Thrivent Choice Funds to our general/current funds to help with monthly expenses and contributions being low during the summer months.
- Pastor Steve submitted his last pastors report. (Message from Pastor Steve on page 6).
- Rally (Family Fun Day) being planned for September 11th! Please look for more details and sign-up sheets to follow.
- Fellowships after service will resume this fall!
- Come learn all things IT team on August 24th! Details and time to follow!
- We are in the first steps of transferring our power church database to our new CCB system! Please make sure the office has your update address, phone number and email. We are hoping to launch this to the congregation this fall!
- June General Fund:
 - Income: \$17,187.67

- Expenses: 22,492.06

Next Council Meeting –

Thursday, August 18th, 2022 at 6:30 pm

Zoom

Joe Kelly — President
Linda Paulovitch — Vice President
Ron Spagna — Secretary
Dave & Barb Hall — Treasurer
Bela Molnar — Financial Secretary

Sandy Buehner John Hooper
Fran Spagna
Mary Huffman
Lauren Huffman
Sharon Pfeiffer

CHURCH COUNCIL

New Banners

Our banners for August/September of the Pentecost season have been generously donated by two families. *“Renew a Steadfast Spirit Within Me”* is given by Kathy and John Schultz and presented to the glory of God. *“Hope in the Lord”* is given by Pastor Wayne and Laurel Gillespie in honor of the many partners and friends of Christ’s Lutheran Church.

Jesus says, “It is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom.” Lk.12:32. What an amazing promise! God will renew our spirits and give us hope so that we can share this good news with others. Have no fear little flock! God’s promises are sure!



CHRIST'S LITTLE PANTRY

Are you, or someone you know, experiencing food insecurity?

Our church now has "Christ's Little Pantry."

If you need food, "Take what you need."

If you have extra food to share, "Leave what you can."

Please share our story, so no one goes hungry.

If you have food to donate, please feel free to put it into the pantry at any time.

The Pantry is in our lower parking lot.

JOBS BOARD

1. "IT" team members for Sunday Service.
2. "Grounds Manager"
3. "Building Manager"
4. Three (3) council members for current council and four (4) council members for next year's council. Four members terms will end this year.
5. Secretarial support for our Administrative Assistant.

If you can help, contact Linda Paulovitch at (412) 525-5619 or lindajeapaul@aol.com.

Faithful members of Christ's Church:

I have enjoyed the past seven years of continuing ministry here helping reach the folks who are unable to attend worship. Many of the people assigned to me by Pastor Wayne were very active during my pastorate so it was a real joy to see them again, reminisce on old times, and look to the future.

In some ways, it was sad to see some that I have known so long and who were very actively involved in the ministry pass on to the Lord's promised kingdom. On the other hand, because of my long-term ministry and experience, it was easy to speak of death and the preparation for it giving confidence to those facing it.

Until I took on the interim at St. Mark's in New Stanton and St. Matthew's in Hunker, I enjoyed preaching at the Saturday night services once a month. It felt good to stand in the sanctuary where I had spent much of my ministry and continue to preach and share the Lord's supper. I thank all of you for giving me the opportunity to return.

Now that I'm getting older, I realize the need to slow down. I am grateful to have been with you once again after retirement. Thank you so much for your kind words and notes in the card that was sent from all of you upon my "second" retirement. I appreciate your kindness and love. May God continue to bless you as you serve him in the many wonderful ways of your ministry.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Steve

We kindly ask that you continue to pray for our CLC members, family, and friends of members who are included in our weekly bulletin prayer list. Thank you.

Damian Arenth
Lindsey Boyer
Patti Federovich
James Holt
Pat Kvale
John Magnus
Tom Moog
Linda O'Donnell
Karen Pflaiderere
Bunny Tjaden
Jack Tjaden
Sue Werner
Bob & Donna Yider



*In Our
Thoughts
and Prayers*

PRAYER CIRCLE



If you have a prayer request, special concern or a thanksgiving to share, please contact Audrey Ferris, the Prayer Circle coordinator, at: (724) 327-3738 or audrey.m.ferris@gmail.com

(Please indicate on the subject line that it relates to the prayer circle).

WE PRAY FOR OUR MISSION PARTNERS:

August 7th

Mr. & Mrs. Roy Ruzomberka
Mr. & Mrs. Fred Salenske
Fred Salenske II
Mrs. Kim Sarnowski

August 14th

Debra Saula
Linda Saville
Mr. & Mrs. James Scanga
Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Schmidt

August 21st

Mr. & Mrs. Dwight Schuetz
Mr. & Mrs. John Schultz
Mr. & Mrs. Martin Schultz
Mrs. Harriet Schwartz

August 28th

Cynthia Sell
Cindy Shaner
Mr. Randy Shanter
Mr. & Mrs. Rudolph Shanter



From the Council President:

Friends in Christ,

The year is flying by... it seems like just yesterday we were weeding the grounds and slinging stones around the flower beds! As we approach the middle of summer, I am reminded that "It's that time of year again." Council Nominations are right around the corner! Over the next few months, we will be seeking nominations for new council members, and I am asking you to please consider working with us in a deeper way. If you are not sure what council is all about, simply join us for a meeting. We would also invite you to be a part of the nominating committee, or even to simply join one of our teams. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me, or any other council member, or the church office. My phone number is 412-999-6060 and my email address is joekelly567@gmail.com.

Sincerely,

Joe Kelly

From the IT TEAM:

"LIGHTS! CAMERA! ACTION!!!"

The IT TEAM is looking to boost our numbers to fill the needs of our online and tech presence within Christ's Lutheran Church.

WHAT: IT TEAM *Meet and Greet*

WHERE: The Church lobby

WHEN: Wednesday August 24th, at 7:00 PM

Topics:

Church Livestream, camera operation, YouTube

Website development, Social Media

Outreach via internet/technology

Come and see what we are all about!

Parents: If your children are "tech savvy" and would like to help out, this is a great place for the youth to get involved with the church. We already have several young members running the camera!

Sincerely,
IT Team



Attention all Weekend Service Helpers, Readers, Worship Assistants, Co-Hosts, Techies and Reconcilers...

Linda & I are now responsible for the scheduling of co-hosts / readers / worship assistants and reconcilers, along with the other weekly scheduling, and we are going to try something new. A new online sign up (Signup Genius) has been created & launched. Those of you who have currently been helping us should have received an invitation with the sign-up sheet. All you need to do is click on the activity that you are willing to help with, enter your name (I think you only have to do that the first time you sign up) and click on "Submit & Signup." You will then get a confirmation email with the list of tasks for which you have volunteered. If you later find that you need to switch, just go back into the sign-up sheet, delete the checkmark, and re-select a time.

Thank you for your patience as we work through this new procedure. It should make it easier on all of us. You can look at the spreadsheet at any time to see when you are scheduled and where there are openings in the scheduling.

If you have any questions or suggestions, or wish to be removed from this group, please let us know.

We always welcome new folks to this team. If you are interested in helping, please contact us at: christslutheranchurch@gmail.com. We will arrange a time to show you what needs to be done. Most tasks only take a few minutes.

Thank you for all you do.

Sandy & Linda

Blood Donations Urgently Needed

Our area has many hospitals that are facing blood shortages since the pandemic hospitalizations have drastically reduced their supplies.

The Outreach Team/Parish Nurses are asking our members who are able to donate blood or plasma to contact these sites to make an appointment for donations at a site near you!

<https://www.vitalant.org/>. (This is the former Central Blood Bank)

OR

<https://www.redcrossblood.org/>



Caring Hearts and Hands will meet on Thursday, August 11 in the downstairs fellowship hall at 9:15 am. We will be packing and delivering lunches to many on our Caring List. Please let us know if you, or someone you know, could benefit from our caring mission. If you have any questions, please contact Romaine Miller at 412-996-4915.



Something big and exciting is happening at CLC on Sunday, September 11, 2022, that you won't want to miss. Stay tuned for more information in the coming weeks!

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Please join us in extending the happiest of Birthday Wishes to the following Mission Partners who celebrate Birthdays in the month of **AUGUST:**

August 1st – 12th

Holly Kirsch
Pam Kuhn
Cara Monroe

Joseph Westerlund
Marianne Trainor
Robert Wilson

August 13th – 17th

David Hall
Santini Ho
Audrey Mauro
Brynn Rogers

Noah Madden
Scythe Ho
Denise Shanter

August 19th -30th

Jason Pastucha
Ed Rupert
Ruby McClintock
Joshua Porter
Amy Heberling
Eric Ruzomberka

Justin Pastucha
Mackenzie Favero
Adrienne McCurry
James Westerlund
Miranda Crofutt

If you don't see your name, and you have an August birthday, please forgive the oversight and give the church office a call so that we can record your birthdate in our parish records.



Thanks, and have an amazing birthday month!



Have you been getting all of our emails?

As you may know, our Church Council, along with Pastor Wayne, has been working diligently to stay in communication with our Members and Ministry Partners. Currently, our live Zoom service has been working well and we want to be sure that you are getting all our emails about these services. We also will be streaming live from YouTube, as well as resuming our 10 am Sunday Morning Worship Service.

We are reaching out to you for help. If you haven't been receiving our emails, they may be landing in your PROMOTIONS/SPAM/JUNK email folder. Please search your mailbox for emails coming from office@christsmurrysville.org To adjust your settings, go to the end of the email and click on the link to "Add us to your address book."

If you wish to include an announcement in our weekly bulletins or monthly newsletter, please email Breana in the Church Office. Just send your typed announcement article into the office@christsmurrysville.org no later than noon on Wednesday (to provide time needed for bulletin preparation & printing). The deadline for submitting information you want us to include in the newsletter is due at the end of the business day on the 20th of the preceding month.

If you would like to connect to the online streaming via YOUTUBE, simply visit our website page www.christsmurrysville.org and click first green block in the middle titled "Join Our Church's Livestream Service".