

THE EXPRESSION

OCTOBER 2018 ~ 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

Sunday School for Children & Adults: 9:00 am

Services

Saturday Contemporary – 6:00 pm

Sunday Worship – 10:00 am

From the Pastor's Desk



Some people roll their eyes every time we talk about stewardship.

We like to hear stories about people in our community standing beside children who are being bullied, and we all like to know that people in our community are battling the heroin epidemic that's claiming so many young lives. We like to know that children are learning about Jesus and about God's plan for their lives, and we want to know that people who are moving through a time of illness and grief are being supported. We want to know that hungry people in our community are being fed. We want to know that children in our local area won't have to face the coming Winter without a coat. We want to have a place where we can worship and pray with each other, and we want to know we're a part of something that's helping our world become a better place.

Did you know that your support of Christ's Lutheran Church makes all of that possible?

We are committed to developing life-changing ministries at Christ's Lutheran Church; and we are continuing to invest our time, energy and financial resources in the work that we believe God wants us to do. We have even invested some of the money that we have in

our reserves to promote the health and growth of our congregation this year. But, we also realize that this can't be a long-term strategy. I'm sure that we've all heard that "money doesn't grow on trees." And yet, we worship Jesus – a Lord who has told us that God will provide all the gifts and resources we need – sometimes in a way that defies our logic. Money may not grow on trees – but maybe the mission of the Church can?

This year, we are going to be using a **Mission Tree** to encourage you to think about how you can financially support our ongoing mission at Christ's Lutheran Church. We're going to be encouraging you to think about the ways that our ministry is changing lives. And we are going to ask you to prayerfully consider the part that you play in financially supporting our life-changing ministries. The **Mission Tree** will be covered with money that represents the funds that we need to collect to support our Sunday School, our worship life, and our ministries of care and support. The money on the **Mission Tree** will represent the money that we need to collect in order to continue our mission of offering Christ's welcome and embrace to all people, of listening and caring for the needs of people within the walls of our building and outside of them, of worshiping and praying, of equipping and empowering people who want to discover new ways to use their gifts and talents in a faith-filled way.

You can help us plan for our future by removing money from the **Mission Tree** to let us know how you are planning to financially support our mission and ministry in 2019 during our stewardship campaign that will be starting this month.

With your help, we will be able to move forward and make plans for our life together in the coming year – knowing that we will have the financial support that we need to continue developing the life-changing ministry that we believe God's calling us to do.

Dave Hanshew — President
 Bela Molnar — Vice President
 Judy Bernardini — Secretary
 Erich Sill — Acting Treasurer
 Bela Molnar — Financial Secretary
 Cindy Lott — Christian Education
 Jim Scanga — Evangelism
 Carol Tamenne — Fellowship

Wally Utley — Finance
 Kris Meade — Parish Administration
 Eric Gipson — Property
 Judy Bernardini — Social Ministry
 Jim Scanga — Stewardship
 Open — Worship & Music
 Trish Lasher — Youth Ministry

CHURCH COUNCIL**Church Council Highlights ~ September 17, 2018**

- Christian Education Committee – First Communion classes will begin on October 7th with First Communion occurring on October 28th followed by a reception.
- Fellowship Committee – An Octoberfest dinner will be held on Saturday, October 20th from 4:00-5:45 pm. A reception will be held following First Communion on October 28th immediately following the 10:00 service.
- Finance Committee – The Church's Operation Funds Deficit is approximately \$22,000 through August 2018, resulting in an average monthly deficit of \$2,800.
- Property Committee – The next scheduled meeting will be held on Wednesday morning, October 3rd at 9:00 am.
- Social Ministry Committee – Thank you to Caring Hearts and Hands for preparing and delivering lunches to our homebound members. The committee made a \$100 donation to the Boyce Community College Campus Cupboard to help with their Food Pantry project for students in need. Thank you to Janet Zegar for volunteering for this ministry. Grocery bags will be distributed to members on October 13th & 14th to be returned on Harvest Home weekend, Oct. 20th & 21st.
- The next scheduled meeting will be held on Monday, Oct 1st at 6:30 pm.

- Stewardship Committee - Harvest Home Weekend will be held on Oct. 20th & 21st.
The next scheduled meeting will be held on Monday, October 1st at 6:00 pm.
- Worship & Ministry Committee –The next scheduled meeting will be held on Monday, October 1st at 7:00 pm.
- Youth Committee – Planned activities include: October 14th– decorate for Harvest Home weekend; October 20th–Hankey Church Scavenger Hunt; November 3–Westmoreland County
- Food Bank Fall Food drive at Giant Eagle in New Kensington; Dec.15 – Box packing at Westmoreland County Food Bank. Mission trip information and a 5-minute video about the project can be accessed through <http://nextstepministries.com/lorain-county-ohio-2/>
- The newsletter will return to a monthly mailing and will be printed in a bulletin format.
- Council approved an appeal for aid for Hurricane Florence through Lutheran Disaster Relief.
- Council approved pledging 500 baskets of stuffing for the Light of Life Thanksgiving Basket Ministry. Volunteers are also needed to pack the baskets on November 19th.
- A Volunteer Recognition Sunday is being planned for November 11th.
- An “All Saints Tree”, a pink Dogwood, will be planted in the fall to honor all saints with a dedication on All Saints Sunday.

The next Council meeting will be held on October 22nd at 7:00 pm.



This month's **SCRAPBOOKING** gathering will be on Friday, OCTOBER 12th at 6:00 pm!

We usually meet on the second Friday of every month.

Please contact Betty Molnar at 724-327-3437 with questions.

Welcoming our New Mission Partner!

Karen Horchak has a heart for seniors who live in the Murrysville area.

Karen is the Program Director of **Open Your Heart to a Senior** – an emerging outreach program of the United Way of Southwestern Pennsylvania. Karen told me, “Our mission is to help seniors stay in their homes as long as they can,” when we recently talked about developing a mission partnership between **Open Your Heart to a Senior** and Christ’s Lutheran Church. “We can provide some home safety checks and offer a ride to a doctor’s appointment,” Karen told me. “We help seniors with minor home repairs, with caregiver relief, and we even offer to help seniors shop for groceries and provide supportive visits and telephone calls. We believe that the best way to help seniors remain healthy and happy is to help them to remain independent.”

Open Your Heart to a Senior is a volunteer-based program that recruits, trains and even matches volunteers with seniors in our local community. Karen said that most of the active volunteers are between the ages of 60 and 80 – but the program is open to people of all ages. **Open Your Heart to a Senior** has served more than 2,700 seniors and has offered more than 102,000 hours of volunteer services – saving seniors and their families almost \$30 million in long-term care costs.

Mary Ann, a senior recipient, was asked to say a few words about the care she’s receiving and about the volunteer who assists her and said, “It’s something I can count on. Our friendship is so special. I love her like my own.”

Mission Partnership is about building bridges and developing life-changing connections.

Open Your Heart to a Senior provides non-medical services to seniors who are 60 years of age or older at no cost. But Karen also reminded me that this life-changing program is only possible because of the hard work and dedication of a small army of volunteers. And that's the key to Mission Partnership! As we, at Christ's Lutheran Church, join hands in ministry with partners like **Open Your Heart to a Senior**, we build connections between people who can help and people who need that help. We build give-and-take relationships in our community that can help people to live-out their faith by connecting gifts and needs in a vital and life-changing way.

If you are interested in becoming an **Open Your Heart to a Senior** volunteer – or if you think that the services that are being offered through this life-giving program could benefit you (or someone that you know), please call: **(724) 327-3353**. We have also placed some brochures in the Information Center that you can take home with you.

Mission Partnerships provide an effective way for Christ's Lutheran Church to take its next step forward in life and ministry and can build life-giving connections that meet the needs of many people in our local community.



Communication System:

We are currently developing a communication system that we can use to notify you when something important happens at the church. We are currently using the system to let you know when someone in our church dies and will also be using it to notify you (by telephone call) if we need to cancel a service(s) due to an unforeseen emergency. You can opt-out of this robocall notifications; but, if you do, you may not receive important information that you would like to receive from the church when something important happens.

Please contact the church office if you have questions or need to update your information

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

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

OCT 1-5

Rebecca Somple	Lynn Madden
Hjalma Bue	Robert Yoder
Donna Yoder	Joseph Stempfer
Lisa Pattock	David Polhamus

OCT 6-17

Lori Kuras	Summer Federovich	Ashley Grabowski
Phyllis Ho	Kirstin Martin	
Bela Molnar	Brian Sell	
Bryan Meade	Melany Andree	

OCT 19-26

Sandy Buehner	James Pfeiffer
Alex Thompson	Linda Paulovitch
Cassandra Dutt	Joseph Koteles
Mark Van Orden	Mary Wentroble
Janet Zegar	Joseph Grabowski Jr.

OCT 27-31

Mallory Shick	Lucas Salenske
Beck Andree	Emily Hooper
Rachel Pattock	

If you don't see your name, and you have an OCTOBER 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 a



Light of Life Thanksgiving Baskets

Every year Light of Life Volunteers put together Thanksgiving Baskets for those in the community who have the ability to cook food but don't necessarily have the financial resources to purchase the food. The goal this year is to put together 1,300 baskets! Join CLC to help buy 500 boxes of stuffing. Please donate by making a check payable to Christ's Lutheran Church and marking "Light of Life" on your check or offering envelope, by using the CLC app, or through our Simply Giving Program. We will deliver the stuffing by November 12th. **HELP US PACK THE BASKETS** on Monday, November 19th at the Light of Life Donation Center located at 635 Ridge Ave, Pgh, 15212. Please sign up on the sheet in the church entryway or email Kris Meade at km.meade@verizon.net or call or text her at 412-580-7872 by Nov 12th.



***Caring Hearts & Hands will meet on
Thursday, October 4th at 9:15 am
at King's Restaurant***

All are welcome to share in our fellowship and ministry.

If you or someone you know would benefit from hearing from us, please contact Romaine Miller at 412-795-6473.

The Sewing Group will **not meet** on Tuesday, Oct 2nd.

See you on Oct 9th at 9:00 am.

Please contact Leslie Sill at 412-793-2546 for additional information.



Come join us!

CHRIST'S CHURCH FOR ALL PEOPLE



Great German Foods (with other options available)

Family friendly fun and activities

Lots of Polkas and other Great Music

Prize for the Best German Costume

Sweet Treats and Special Desserts

CHRIST'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
5330 Old Logan Ferry Road
Murrysville, PA
412-795-1212
www.christsmurrysville.org

October 20, 2018 ~ 4:00 to 5:45 pm
COME and join us for **THE** annual
celebration of our life and ministry!

A Family-Friendly Fun for All Ages!

Come and join the fun as we celebrate our life and ministry with a German twist! We'll be serving some great food, enjoying friendly conversations, listening to polkas and other enjoyable tunes, and inviting the children to join in some fun activities and games.

Be sure to let us know that you're coming, so that we can save you a seat and include you in the fun!

CHRIST'S CHURCH FOR ALL PEOPLE

First Communion Classes

First Communion classes will be held for all students in the 3rd and 4th grade during our Sunday School hours in October. We hope that students in the 4th grade (and who have already received First Communion instruction) will attend all of the class sessions, so that they have the opportunity to review some of the things that they learned last year. Students in the 3rd grade will receive Holy Communion for the first time during our 10:00 am worship service on October 28, 2018 (Reformation Sunday).

You do not need to pre-register for First Communion instruction, but those who want to receive their First Communion on Reformation Sunday should plan to attend all of the scheduled sessions. If this is a challenge that you cannot overcome, please contact Pastor Wayne as soon as possible, so that he can provide materials that you can review at home.

The “First Communion” class schedule is as follows:**Sunday, October 7, 2018 – 9:00 a.m.**

“What is a Sacrament”

“Different Ways that People Share Holy Communion”

Sunday, October 14, 2018 – 9:00 a.m.

“The Passover and the Exodus”

“How We Share Holy Communion at Christ’s Lutheran Church”

Sunday, October 21, 2018 – 9:00 a.m.

“The Body of Christ”

“Tasting the Bread, Wafers, Juice, and Wine”

Sunday, October 28, 2018 – Celebration of First Communion

9:00 a.m. – First Communion Practice (please be prompt for our Practice)

10:00 a.m. – Festival Reformation Worship with First Communion

11:00 p.m. – Cake Reception honoring those receiving First Communion

HARVEST HOME WEEKEND

Our collection of non-perishable food items will serve to benefit the Plum Food Pantry. Paper grocery bags will be available at all services on October 13th & 14th. Please fill them up for the needy in our area and bring them to church services over Harvest Home Weekend on Oct. 20th & 21st.



As always, thank you for your support of this worthy local community outreach!

Carnations for the Festival of All Saints

If you would like to order red carnations in memory of loved ones for the Festival of All Saints on November 4th, please take an order envelope from the Information Center. Each carnation is \$1.00 and may be taken home after any service that you attend that weekend. Order envelopes may be placed in the offering plates or in the Parish Administrator's mailbox.



Orders must be placed by Monday, October 29, 2018

(Ushers / Reconcilers: Please place the empty order envelopes in the Parish Administrator's mailbox.)

NEW SOUND WILL BE SUNDAY, OCTOBER 21ST





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.

Pat & Don Andelmo - friends of Marianne Trainor
Damian Arenth - grandson of Holly Kirsch
Bill Bichsel - son of Marianne Trainor
Linda Birge - cousin of Marion O'Donnell
Linda Bradish - mother of co-worker of Sandy Buehner
Sandy Buehner - CLC member
Edna Dymond - CLC member
Deborah Ethier - friend of Gloria Frick
Chuck & Irene Evans - CLC member
Julie Fallin - friend of Dwight & Carolyn Schuetz
Evelyn Gilbreath - friend of Sandy Buehner
Nancy Hartwick - friend of Sandy Buehner
John Heilman - brother of Jane Montgomery
Peggy Henry - CLC member
Maureen Horansky - friend of Gerry & Cindy Lott
Abby Johnson - friend of Wally Utley
Cindy Lemon - sister of Carol Tamenne
David Little - son of Roger and Barb Little
Lindsay Little - niece of Kathy & John Schultz
Jean Lowe - sister of Mary Wentroble
Grace Lucas - CLC member
Bob Lyons - CLC member
Donna Magerl - friend of Sandy Buehner
Audrey Mauro - sister of Louise Fitz
Derek McClemens - son of Greg & Debby McClemens
Jennifer McGraw - cousin of Marion O'Donnell

Gary Oswalt - sister of Lisa Pattock
Linda O'Donnell - sister-in-law of Michael O'Donnell
Gage Peters - friend of son-in-law of Marion O'Donnell
Rich Radcliffe - former co-worker of Wally Utley
John Ring - brother of Mary Wentroble
John Russell - son of Theresa Russell
Theresa Russell - CLC member
Sarah Schlegel - sister-in-law of Sandy Buehner
Patti Smith - daughter of Frieda Cushing
Mary Sorrells - request from Pastor Wayne
Wilma Stewart - mother of Tammy Scanga
Arlene Switzer - friend of Oren Keibler
Bob & Marianne Trainor - CLC member
Gail Verico - grandmother of Michelle Gravante
Dawn Werner - niece of Sue & Mike Werner
Joy Wisneski - friend of Sandy Buehner
Gloria Zagorac - CLC member

WE PRAY FOR OUR MISSION PARTNERS:**OCT 7**

John, Lisa, Alana, JJ Tensuan
Sandra and Alex Thompson
Mark, Linda, Jason, Brandon Towle
Robert and Marianne Trainor

**OCT 14**

George Truby
Wallace Utley
Kristen, Mark, Emma, Paige, Tessa, Isabella, Riley
Arthur and Marjorie Wagle

WE PRAY FOR OUR MISSION PARTNERS:

OCT 21

Robert and Ruth Walters
Eric Waxbom
Mary Wentroble
Michael and Sue Werner



OCT 28

Robert, Tammy, Grace, Sophia Wilson
Kevin, Lisa, Owen, Dylan Wissinger
Jeff, Caron, Rachel Wolfe
Robert and Donna Yoder



Attention Youth! Hankey Church Cemetery Scavenger Hunt - October. 20th from 2:00pm to 4:00 pm.

We will meet at the church at 1:30 pm and then head over to the cemetery for our scavenger hunt. We will return to the after so the youth can take part in the Oktoberfest Fellowship with their church family. All ages are welcome to join us.

Please sign up on the sheet in the church entryway.

Our collection items for Operation Christmas Child for **OCTOBER** are reusable plastic wear, sippy cups, water bottles, plates and bowls.

- Please put donations in the collection bin marked for Operation Christmas Child.



Thank you for your support!

CHRIST'S CHURCH FOR ALL PEOPLE

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 or the church office at: (412) 795-1212 or office@christsmurrysville.org .

(If you send an email to Audrey or to the church office, please indicate on the subject line that it relates to the prayer circle).



The Prayer Circle is confidential; you need give only the information you are comfortable with. Whatever the need is, the Prayer Circle is there for you and we will put your request on the list. Also, please remember that many varieties of greeting cards are available on a small table in the church entryway. If you would like to send a note to those on the bulletin prayer list or birthday list, just add a note and a stamp and send to brighten someone's day!



Please prayerfully consider contributing to our cause by simply writing 'mission trip' on your offering envelope. The monies collected will go directly to our youth group's fund as we plan for this life-changing adventure in faith and service!

Thank you for your generosity.

Men's Breakfast will be held on Saturday morning, **OCTOBER 20th** at 8:00 am in the Lower Social hall.

Bring a hearty appetite and enjoy hanging out with the guys.



The Shofar



Week #83: Sept 30 - Oct 6

Sun: Esther 7:1-6, 9-10, 9:20-22, Mark 9:38-50; Mon: Esther 4:1-17, 1 Peter 1:3-9; Tues: Esther 5:1-14, 1 John 2:18-25; Wed: Esther 8:1-17, Matthew 18:6-9; Thurs: Job 2:11-3:26, Galatians 3:23-29; Fri: Job 4:1-21, Romans 8:1-11; Sat: Job 7:1-21, Luke 16:14-18

Week #84: Oct 7 - Oct 13

Sun: Job 1:1, 2:1-10, Mark 10:2-16; Mon: Job 8:1-22, 1 Corinthians 7:1-9; Tues: Job 11:1-20, 1 Corinthians 7:10-16; Wed: Job 15:1-35, Matthew 5:27-36; Thurs: Job 17:1-16, Hebrews 3:7-19; Fri: Job 18:1-21, Hebrews 4:1-11; Sat: Job 20:1-29, Matthew 15:1-9

Week #85: Oct 14 - Oct 20

Sun: Job 23:1-9, 16-17, Mark 10:17-31; Mon: Job 26:1-14, Revelation 7:9-17; Tues: Job 28:12-29:10, Revelation 8:1-5; Wed: Job 32:1-22, Luke 16:19-31; Thurs: Job 36:1-16, Romans 15:7-13; Fri: Job 37:1-24, Revelation 17:1-18; Sat: Job 39:1-30, Luke 22:24-30

Week #86: Oct 21 - Oct 27

Sun: Job 38:1-7 [34-41], Mark 10:35-45; Mon: Job 40:1-24, Hebrews 6:1-12; Tues: Job 41:1-11, Hebrews 6:13-20; Wed: Job 41:12-34, John 13:1-17; Thurs: 2 Kings 20:12-19, Hebrews 7:1-10; Fri: Nehemiah 1:1-11, Hebrews 7:11-22; Sat: Job 42:7-9, Mark 8:22-26

Week #87: Oct 28 - Nov 3

Sun: Job 42:1-6, 10-17, Mark 10:46-52; Mon: Isaiah 59:9-19, 1 Peter 2:1-10; Tues: Ezekiel 18:1-32, Acts 9:32-35; Wed: Ezekiel 14:12-23, Matthew 20:29-34; Thurs: Ruth 1:18-22, Hebrews 9:1-12; Fri: Ruth 2:1-9, Romans 3:21-31; Sat: Ruth 2:10-14, Luke 10:25-37