

THE EXPRESSION

NOVEMBER 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



What do you see when you look into the eyes of other people?

I usually see kindness and love in the eyes of people who support me and encourage me. I see warmth and generosity in people who are working beside me to accomplish common hopes and dreams; but, I get frustrated and see people very differently when things aren't running smoothly. In times of conflict, my eyes often can't see clearly at all. I see people's mistakes and point-out things that I'd usually ignore. And ancient Chinese proverb states that we can know that the sun is setting when small things begin to cast long shadows. Often, the ways we look at people are shaped from deep within us, and the ways that we treat others are as deeply shaped by our thoughts and perspectives as they are by the actions and behaviors of others.

This month, we celebrate the festival of All Saints.

We are reminded that, even though we continue to struggle with sin in our lives, we are God's holy and chosen people. We are reminded that even when we drift off course and make decisions that we regret, the love of Jesus continues to offer us gifts of

forgiveness and chances to do better. The welcome and embrace of Jesus is great. The power of God can do great things. But, we're usually not that gracious, are we? In fact, when folks hurt and disappoint us, we often believe that they'll never change and we use that perception as an excuse to withhold our forgiveness.

In his explanation of the 8th Commandment, Martin Luther writes: "*We should fear and love God so that we do not tell lies about our neighbor, betray him, slander him, or hurt his reputation, but defend him, speak well of him, and explain everything [that he does] in the kindest way.*"

This month, I want to encourage you to see
the "saints" all around you.

People who don't share our thoughts and perspectives don't have to become our enemies when we understand that those who disagree with us are still God's "saints." Our struggles and conflicts with others can be tamed when we look into the eyes of other people and see people that God continues to love. The Festival of All Saints reminds us that we are *fearfully and wonderfully made* (**Psalm 139:14**) by a God who brings us together because it's "*not good*" for us to be alone (**Genesis 2:18**). And, when we see that, God works in our lives to bring healing to the whole Creation.

What do you see when you look into the eyes of other people?

Perhaps, this month, we can work together to see the "saints" in each other and see each other as people who are loved by Jesus. Maybe that's a good start in turbulent times?

~ *Pastor Wayne*

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 ~ October 22, 2018**

- **Christian Education Committee** –First Communion will be held on October 28th at the 10:00 am service with a reception following in the upper social hall.
- **Fellowship Committee** – Thank you to all who made our Octoberfest celebration a success!
- **Property Committee** – The next scheduled meeting will be held on Wednesday morning, November 7th at 9:00 am.
- **Social Ministry Committee** –The next Caring Hearts and Hands meeting is Thursday, Nov. 1st at 9:15 am. The next scheduled committee meeting will be held on Monday, November 5th at 6:30 pm.
- **Stewardship Committee** - Thank you to everyone who made donations for the Plum Food Pantry during our Harvest Home weekend. Check out our Mission Tree that is “planted” in the Narthex. The next scheduled meeting will be held on Monday, November 12th at 6:00 pm.
- **Worship & Ministry Committee** –The next scheduled meeting will be held on Monday, November 5th at 7:00 pm.
- **Youth Committee** – Planned activities include: November 11– Westmoreland County Food Bank Fall Food drive at the Giant Eagle in Penn Twp., *2000 Penny Lane Drive, Jeannette, PA-15644* from 11-1 pm; 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/>

- Aid for Hurricanes Florence and Michael are still being supported through Lutheran Disaster Relief.
- 500 cans of gravy are being donated to the Light of Life Thanksgiving Basket Ministry.
- An "All Saints Tree", a pink Dogwood, was planted to honor all saints and will be dedicated on All Saints Sunday, November 4th.
- Volunteer and Military Recognition Sunday will be held on November 11th.
- The Council Nominating Team is seeking candidates for 3 open council positions
- Congregational Meetings will be held on Dec 1st and Dec 2nd to present the budget to the congregation. The meeting to vote and adopt the budget will be held on Dec 9th.
- The Alle-Kiski Christmas Concert will be held on December 8th after the 6:00 Worship Service followed by a reception.

The next Council meeting will be on NOVEMBER 19th at 7:00 pm.

2019 Offering Envelopes

Council decided to use a unified giving approach for contributions in 2019. This decision was made for several reasons. Benevolence and Building are fixed expenses. If giving to these funds is not sufficient to cover the monthly expenses, the remainder will come out of Current. Basically, all of the church's expenses come out of Current. Also reconciling weekly envelopes will be much faster. For 2019, we will replace the past funds with a General Fund. The new envelopes will have space where you can enter contributions for other things like Altar Flowers, Mission Trip, Family and Food Bank.

The new envelopes will look like this:

1234	DATE	1234
Christ's Lutheran Church <small>5310 Old Logan Ferry Road Murrysville, Pa 15668</small>		
My Offering To The Work of Christ		
	GENERAL FUND	\$ _____
	_____	\$ _____
	_____	\$ _____
	_____	\$ _____
		TOTAL \$ _____

*Silver Bells are Ringing ... It's the 25th Anniversary of
Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes!*

Please send the Gift of Christmas Shoebox to Bless a Child

There are millions of children around the world who would not be getting any gifts for Christmas. But thanks to Operation Christmas Child and many generous Christians from 11 countries, over 11.5 million children in need, in more than 160 countries and territories in 2017 received a Christmas Shoebox filled with small toys, school supplies and toiletry items as well as God's Word in their own language.

Unfortunately, the number of families who are in crisis due to natural disasters, wars, and such remains high in 2018.

There are several ways to help us with this project:

1. PRAY – that God will touch the hearts of every child who receives a shoebox and that many children and their families will come to faith in Jesus Christ
2. PACK a Box – this pamphlet will instruct you how to pack a box, but the highlights are: pick a girl or boy and age range as noted on back of pamphlet, DO include toys, hygiene items, accessories such as socks, hats/gloves, sunglasses, hair bands, and a personal note from your family...NO toothpaste, NO food of any kind, NO liquids, lotions or aerosols, NO glass, NO war toys.
3. DONATE \$9.00 for international shipping. If you are also packing a shoebox, please write one check for all the boxes your family is packing and insert into envelope provided in the pamphlet and place in your box – OR -following the directions in the pamphlet, donate \$9.00 on-line and print out your label and discover the country destination of your box. This is a great opportunity to learn about another country and culture, their people and customs.

“Each Shoebox is a Missionary”

Please help families experience God's unconditional love through a Christmas shoebox.

Boxes are due to the Church by November 11th

CHRIST'S CHURCH FOR ALL PEOPLE

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

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

NOV 1-8

Helen Sward
William Gras
Theresa Russell

Melanie Bertges
Roger Little
Lisa Wissinger

NOV 9-16

Alicia Matz
Evan D'Ascenzo
Kristan Meade
Charles Evans

Avery Piper
Al Matz
Dan O'Block
Audrey Ferris

NOV 17-22

Mikie Mondale
Leslie Sills
Pastor Wayne Gillespie
Isabella Van Orden

Tom Adams
Robert Graper
Haley Grieco

NOV 24-30

JoAnn Pastucha
Olivia Grieco
Greg McClemens

Dana Yurisinec
Tyler Yurisinec
Fred Salenske II

If you don't see your name, and you have a NOVEMBER 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 cans of gravy. 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 gravy 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, NOVEMBER 1ST at 9:15 am
at Christ's Lutheran Church***

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 meets on Tuesdays of every month at 9:00 am

This month they will not be meeting on Tuesday, Nov 6th

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



Come join us!

CHRIST'S CHURCH FOR ALL PEOPLE

Your Support is ESSENTIAL to our Mission!

Many have already plucked money from the Mission Tree and we are at 25% funded for 2019. We have an important decision to make about what we can achieve in 2019 and it is absolutely essential to have 100% participation in estimating our financial support. We are in the midst of creating a 2019 budget and the congregation will be discussing and voting on our plan for our 2019 ministry in early December. Our estimate of giving will impact our plan and we want to make sure our decision is based on an accurate estimate.

If for any reason you will not be participating, please let myself or the church office know so we can adjust our numbers to reflect non-participation. We completely respect your decision and there are no questions asked. Please let us know so we can make a good decision for 2019.

If you haven't had a chance to pluck money off the tree here's what you need to know:

- Our Mission and how we are living up to it was sent to every household in a letter.
- In order to continue to live God's purpose for us we need ~\$300k of support in 2019.
- The Mission Tree in the Narthex has all the money we need to live our Mission in 2019.
- Please estimate your financial support for 2019 and remove the equivalent play money from the Mission Tree.
- We don't need this play money back. It is yours to keep as a reminder of your estimate.
- Our goal is to remove all the money from the tree to fully uncover our Mission for 2019.
- Your estimate is anonymous and it is only an estimate. It is not a pledge or commitment and if things change you don't need to contact anyone.

Thank you for your support.

~ Jim Scanga 412 877 3733

2018-2019 Catechism Class Schedule:

September 9, 2018	January 13, 2019
October 14, 2018	February 10, 2019
November 11, 2018	March 10, 2019
December 9, 2018	April 14, 2019
May 12, 2019	



Classes will be held from 6:00—8:00 pm



The Westmoreland County Food Bank hosts an annual **Fall Food Share Food Drive** at select Giant Eagle Stores. Over the past couple of years, the youth of our church have volunteered to hand out shopping lists to customers at the entrance of stores. Once shoppers are finished, they drop off

their donated items to our kids on the way out. The kids do a fabulous job engaging the customers and incredibly well with the number of donations gathered! These donations are critical this time of year as they assist the food bank with providing food to pantries, meal programs, soup kitchens, emergency shelters and childcare programs.

Please join us on
Sunday, November 11 ~ 11:00am to 1:00pm
PENN TWP GIANT EAGLE
2000 Penny Lane Drive
Jeanette, PA 15644

Please help Westmoreland County Food Bank reduce hunger and help provide food for those in need.

Thank you
 ~ Trish Lasher – (412)956-2294

NEW SOUND WILL BE SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 18TH





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
Dorothy Beacom - CLC member
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
Jeanne Clark - friend of the Lott's
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
Christopher Molar - son of a friend of the Marion O'Donnell
Gary Oswalt - sister of Lisa Pattock
Linda O'Donnell - sister-in-law of Michael O'Donnell
Debra Pavlock - friend of Gloria Frick
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
Tony Santacasa - friend of the Bernardini & McClemens
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



Are you a veteran? We will be honoring the friends and members of our church who have served our nation (during a time of peace, or war) during our worship service on Saturday, November 10th and Sunday, November 11th. If

you served our nation in the armed forces, please be sure to sign the sheet in the entryway and to let us know what branch of the military you served.

WE PRAY FOR OUR MISSION PARTNERS:

NOV 4

Michael and Sue Werner
Robert, Tammy, Grace, Sophia Wilson
Kevin, Lisa, Owen, Dylan Wissinger
Jeff, Caron, Rachel Wolfe



NOV 11

Robert and Donna Yoder
Dana, Tyler, Gavin, Brady Yurisinec
Gloria Zagorac
Robert and Cheryl Zamule

NOV 18

Nathan, Pam, Joshua, Jacob, Nicholas, Noah Zimmerman
Tom and Karen Adams
Brett, Melany, Mirabella, Beck, Briggs Andree
Damian Arent

NOV 25

Tina Ashbaugh
Dorothy Beacom
Janet Beall
Rob, Dana, Laurel Beatty



*This month's **SCRAPBOOKING** gathering with be on Friday, NOVEMBER 9th at 6:00 pm!*

We usually meet on the second Friday of every month.

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

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Annual Congregational Christmas Party

Date: Sunday, December 16th, 2018

Time: 6:00 pm

Place: Rivertowne Pour House, Monroeville, PA

Cost: \$30.00 per person

Please join us for an evening of good food and great fellowship. Everyone is welcome to attend. Our dinner will be buffet-style—with rolls, coffee, tea, and dessert included.

Please use the signup sheet in the entry-hallway to secure a reservation. We must have at least 30 people signed up and paid for by **Friday, November 16th, 2018** to reserve our space.

Please make checks payable to Christ's Lutheran Church. You can include your check with your contribution to our ministry in your offering envelope. Electronic payments accepted as well.

If you have any questions, please call the Parish Office at 412-795-1212.

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, **NOVEMBER 17th** at 8:00 am in the Lower Social hall.

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



CHRIST'S CHURCH FOR ALL PEOPLE

The Shofar



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

Week #88: Nov 4 - Nov 10

Sun: Ruth 1:1-18; Mark 12:28-34; Mon: Ruth 2:15-23, 1 Romans 12:17-21, 13:8-10; Tues: Ruth 3:1-7, Acts 7:17-29; Wed: Ruth 3:8-18, John 13:31-35; Thurs: Ruth 4:1-10, Romans 5:6-11; Fri: Ruth 4:11-17, Hebrews 9:15-24; Sat: Ruth 4:18-22, Mark 11:12-14, 20-24

Week #89: Nov 11 - Nov 17

Sun: Ruth 3:1-5, 4:13-17; Mark 12:38-44; Mon: Genesis 24:1-10, 1 Timothy 5:1-8; Tues: Genesis 24:11-27, 1 Timothy 5:9-16; Wed: Genesis 24:28-42, Luke 4:16-30; Thurs: 1 Samuel 1:21-28, 1 Timothy 6:11-21; Fri: 1 Samuel 2:18-21, Colossians 2:6-15; Sat: 1 Samuel 3:1-18, Mark 12:1-12

Week #90: Nov 18 - Nov 24

Sun: 1 Samuel 1:4-20, Mark 13:1-8; Mon: 1 Samuel 3:19-4:2, 1 Hebrews 10:26-31, 13:8-10; Tues: Deuteronomy 26:5-10, Hebrews 10:32-39; Wed: 1 Kings 8:22-30, Mark 13:9-23; Thurs: 2 Kings 22:1-10, Acts 7:54-8:1a; Fri: 2 Kings 22:11-20, 1 Corinthians 15:20-28; Sat: 2 Kings 23:1-14, John 3:31-36

Week #91: Nov 25 - Dec 1

Sun: 2 Samuel 23:1-7, John 18:33-37; Mon: 2 Kings 23:15-25, Revelation 11:1-14; Tues: 1 Samuel 17:55-18:5, Revelation 11:15-19; Wed: 2 Samuel 2:1-7, John 16:25-33; Thurs: Nehemiah 9:6-15, Thessalonians 5:1-11; Fri: Nehemiah 9:16-25, Thessalonians 5:12-22; Sat: Nehemiah 9:26-31, Luke 21:20-24

