

THE EXPRESSION

March 2024 ~ 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
App: Christ's Lutheran (ELCA)

Services

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



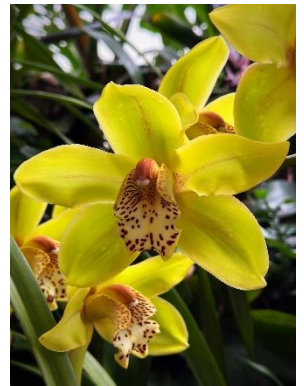
From the Pastor

Easter is the biggest day in the Church year; and it serves as a day when faithful Christians, all around the world, celebrate Christ's resurrection from the dead. Easter is a day when we highlight hope, renewal, and the triumph over death. Easter is a day when we recall God's ability to redeem and to heal. It testifies to the transformative power of God and calls us to remember that no matter how dire our circumstances may seem, there is always hope. Just as Jesus was raised from the dead on the third day, and just as Jesus emerged from the tomb, so too can we experience rebirth and a fresh start.



The resurrection of Jesus Christ is the cornerstone of our faith, and it reminds us of God's ultimate victory over sin and death. But Easter also underscores God's desire to lead the Church into a future that is filled with promise and excitement. God is at work and is continuing to guide Christ's Lutheran Church toward a greater purpose in life and in ministry. We are called, as Christians, to embrace this future with both faith and anticipation as we trust in God's providence and sovereignty. The message of Easter is vitally important to hear in today's rapidly changing world. God remains steadfast and sure. God continues to fulfill promises even in times of uncertainty. Just as Christ's resurrection brought hope to his disciples and to the budding Church, so too can we find assurance in God's promise to lead our church into a future that is both good and filled with excitement.

Easter also invites us to reflect upon the profound implications of Christ's resurrection for our lives and community. Easter challenges us to embrace renewal and transformation, to let go of past failures, and to embrace new opportunities for growth and service. Easter can stir our hearts and inspire us to share the Good News of hope and redemption with others and invite people to experience the life-changing power of resurrection, too. Easter calls us to be agents of change and reconciliation in a world that longs for the healing and restoration that only Jesus can bring in these challenging times.



Ultimately, Easter is a celebration of God's unfailing love and God's relentless pursuit of people just like us. It reminds us that no matter what challenges may come our way, God is always working behind the scenes and orchestrating a plan that is ultimately good. As we journey forward into our futures and toward the future of Christ's Lutheran Church, may we do so with hearts full of faith, trusting in the promise of new life that Easter brings.

~ Pastor Wayne

Parish Administrator Job Opening

We are currently seeking qualified applicants who are interested in serving as our Parish Administrator. General Church Office Management and Administrative duties, requiring proficiency in Microsoft Office with emphasis on Word and Excel. Part time, 20 hours per week: 4 days (M,T,R & F). This [job description](#) is posted on our church website and Facebook page. If you are interested in applying, or know someone that would be interested in this position, please send resumes to: office@christsmurrysville.org



**Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday
10: 00 am - 3:00 pm
5330 Old Logan Ferry Road, Murrysville, PA 15668
You can contact the office at office@christsmurrysville.org
or by calling 412-795-1212**

Please be aware that we do not currently have someone in the office during regular office hours. Please email or call the Church Office to ensure that someone is in the office prior to coming to the church.

CHURCHCOUNCIL

Barth Tamenne — President
Kim Boyer — Vice President
Ron Spagna — Secretary
Dave & Barb Hall — Treasurer
Bela Molnar — Financial Secretary
Linda Paulovitch – Congregation Secretary

George Meade
John Schultz
Carol Tamenne

Thank you for serving!

If you are interested in becoming a council member, please contact a council member or the church office.

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS from the February 15th meeting:

- Our congregation's loan will be paid off in February. The council encourages members to continue giving at the same level, so that existing and new ministry opportunities can be supported.
- CLC Mission Statement is "We are a Christ-centered and welcoming Christian community, committed to encouraging faith-filled living, deepening friendships, and life changing discipleship."
- The Sunday School will sponsor an Easter Egg Hunt on March 24th and the Congregational Life Team will host times of fellowship after our worship services on Easter weekend.
- Electronic contributions should be made through the Subsplash app; Push Pay and Tithely will no longer be in use after March 1st.
- The Parish Administrator position is still open. The council is hoping the congregation can help find applicants for the position. Volunteers are needed to cover the office during office hours – M,T,Th,F 10 am-3 pm.
- A new office computer was purchased.
- Passing the collection plates during the offering will resume. The council will serve as the four ushers needed at first, then volunteers will be needed. An usher training session will be held on March 3rd.
- The next council meeting will be held on March 21st at 6:30 pm.

CARING HEARTS HANDS

Caring Hearts & Hands will meet on Thursday, March 14, 2024, in the downstairs fellowship hall. We will gather at 9:15 am for an organizational meeting followed by brunch at a local restaurant. We invite you to join us for either one or both events that morning. For any questions concerning our mission or our March 14th gathering, contact Romaine Miller at 412-996-4915.





MEN'S BREAKFAST

Join us on Saturday, March 9th at 8:30 am in the lower social hall for a traditional breakfast and fellowship. The only thing you need to bring is a hearty appetite!

Reminder Corner:

The Reminder Corner is a place where you can find important meetings that are happening in the church this month:



March 6th @ 9:00 am
March 10th @ 11:00 am
March 11th @ 6:30 pm
March 11th @ 6:30 pm
March 12th @ 6:00 pm
March 21st @ 6:30 pm

Property Team Meeting
Congregational Life Meeting
Outreach Team Meeting
Worship & Music Meeting
Support Team Meeting
Council Meeting

Lenten Journey 2024

Palm Sunday Weekend – March 24

Easter Egg Hunt – 9:00 a.m.

Saturday Evening Worship (In-Person) – 6:00 p.m.

**Sunday Morning Worship – (In-Person and Livestream
Worship) – 10:00 a.m.**

Maundy Thursday – March 28

In-Person and Livestream Worship - 7:00 p.m.

Good Friday – March 29

In-Person and Livestream Worship - 7:00 p.m.

Easter Weekend – March 30 and 31

Saturday Evening Worship (In-Person) – 6:00 p.m.

Saturday Easter Fellowship – 7:00 p.m.

**Sunday Morning Worship – (In-Person and Livestream
Worship) – 10:00 a.m.**

Sunday Easter Fellowship – 11:00 a.m.

THANK YOU to everyone who participated in the Worship Assistant training on Feb. 3rd and 4th. We appreciate you!



We appreciate the continued commitment of our Readers, Worship Assistants, Reconcilers, Tech Team, Ushers, and many others who make our worship services possible.

SIGN UP GENIUS IS NOW AVAILABLE ON OUR SUBSPLASH APP!

Click on "Weekend Worship Teams" to sign up to be a part of our worship.

Thank you for your Time & Talent!



OFFERING / GIVING INFORMATION:

The church will no longer be using Tithely or PushPay for electronic giving as of March 1, 2024. Please use the SubSplash app for all electronic giving.

Because of many generous contributions to mortgage debt reduction, our loan will be paid off this month. Thank you to all who donated. You have helped our church pay off this loan two years ahead of schedule! Donations to debt reduction will be deposited to the General fund after our loan has been paid in full.

The Council has decided that it's time to restart the practice of passing plates during the offering on Sunday mornings. Several of our Council members will serve as the ushers this weekend. **There will be a brief training session for those who would like to learn more about this important way to serve after our worship service on March 3rd.** You can quickly and easily let our Council know that you will attend the training session by using our new app - Christ's Lutheran (ELCA) - to register for the event.





JOIN US FOR FUN and Fellowship as we pack and assemble Food Boxes for Seniors at the Westmoreland County Food Bank in Delmont on **Saturday, March 23rd from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm.** Christ's Lutheran signed up for 16 volunteers to be on our team. Please contact Kris Meade at kmeade@medbrokersllc.com or call 412-580-7872 for more information. Thank you for helping those in need!



Christ's Lutheran Church **EASTER EGG HUNT**

**SUNDAY, MARCH 24, 2024
9 AM – 10 AM**



Meet in Downstairs Social Hall at 9 AM



Crafts and Activities

**Bring a basket or bag, bring a friend, and come join in the fun! Ages 1-15
All those who bring a friend will be entered in a drawing for a special prize!**

***Donations of individually wrapped fun-size and small candies would be appreciated!
A basket for donations is located in the church entryway, as well as a sign-up sheet
for volunteers. Thank you!***

The Care Corner

The Care Corner is a place where we can connect with each other and share news about important events in each other's lives. If you have information that you would like to share in the Care Corner, please send it to: office@christsmurrysville.org



Care Corner

"SOUPER" BOWL of CARING"



KANSAS CITY CHIEFS: 25
SAN FRANCISCO 49ers: 22



EVERYBODY WINS!!!

Thank you for your donations to the Little Pantry

CHRIST'S LITTLE PANTRY



THANK YOU to all who have helped to keep the Little Pantry filled. The **second weekend** of each month is now designated as Christ's Little Pantry Weekend, although you can bring food to put into the Little Pantry with you on any weekend. You can be a part of this life-changing ministry by bringing one or two items with you when you come to worship on that weekend and by placing your generous gift in the collection box in the Entryway, or directly into the Little Pantry, which is located in our lower parking lot. Your kindness is truly appreciated. Let's work together to keep our Little Pantry full!!

Current pantry needs: Peanut butter, Jelly, Box Dinners, Pancake mix (made using water), Syrup, Snack Bars, Juice, Tuna, Pasta Sauce, Canned Pasta, Crackers.

No canned vegetables are needed at this time.

Thrivent Choice Dollars

By directing Thrivent Choice Dollars through the Thrivent Choice program, eligible Thrivent members recommend where Thrivent Financial distributes some of its charitable outreach grant dollars among thousands of participating nonprofit organizations and congregations. **Christ's Lutheran is an eligible recipient.**

2023 Allocations, which can be made by internet or phone, are required to be made by March 31, 2024, or the allocations will expire unused.

Linda Paulovitch at 412-525-5619 / lindaJeanpaul@aol.com



If you would like to have an announcement included in the bulletin, please send the information to the church office by Wednesday. Please have your newsletter articles submitted to the church office on or before the 20th of each month. Articles in ready-to-print form can be emailed to office@christsmurrysville.org. Thank you!



**PLEASE CONSIDER DONATING TO HEIFER
INTERNATIONAL DURING LENT.**

Heifer International is an 80-year-old non-profit organization that's helped 42.9 million households. Heifer currently works in 19 countries and helps 2.67 million households in the United States alone. Heifer has trained 7.6 million people since 2012. 64% of these people are women.

Heifer's mission is to end hunger and poverty in a sustainable way while caring for the Earth. It goes into a community with a 5 year plan. People are taught to be self-reliant and to make a living income. Heifer supports and invests in local, small-scale farmers and in their communities. Heifer mentors entrepreneurs and helps them to build a business and to gain access to markets. Farmers can use the money that they earn by selling their produce to buy items that they need like medicines and to build the schools that educate their children. Families are required to pass along at least one offspring of each of their animals and to train the next generation by sharing acquired knowledge.

Heifer help families that are facing hunger and poverty by sharing the love of Jesus. Heifer International believes that, on Easter, God calls us to give thanks for the gift salvation through His Son and to share the love of Jesus by serving others.

Christ's Lutheran Church has supported Heifer International for many years. We donated \$830 last year and we have donated \$39,645 since we embraced Heifer International as a partner in ministry in 1992. Heifer International was able to DOUBLE our gifts last year because of other generous businesses and individuals, and we are glad to say some of Heifer's other donors have indicated that they will MATCH our generous gifts again this year.

If you want to make a tax-deductible donation to Heifer, you can easily send your gift by using our app **Christ's Lutheran (ELCA)** or by sending a check, payable to Christ's Lutheran Church, that includes Heifer on the memo line. You can find more information by visiting <http://www.heifer.org> or by stopping visiting bulletin board in our Entryway.

Thank you for your consideration and generosity!

Eric Waxbom





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

Kim Barnes, Bonnie, Laura Cable, Debbie Faust, Marlene Gerdes, Kate Hall, Peggy Henry, Oren Keibler, Grace Lucas, John Magnus, Charlie Meade, Taylor Niemetz, Linda O'Donnell, Michael O'Donnell, Paul Rizzo, Howard Rockette, Andrea Schwartz Nutter, Sandy Shaffer, Bob Stover, Sandy Tambellini, Jack Tjaden, Sean Vandy, Theona Waxbom, and Rev. HB West



We are honored to continue journeying through life with people who have been faithful partners in ministry for many years, but who are now homebound, including: Janet Beall, Jean Bottorf, Hjalma Bue, Gail Byrne, Joseph Cashell, Shirley Daum, Bertha DeCecco, Bob DeCecco, Robin DeCecco, Irene Evans, Bill Farrell, Marlene Gerdes, Dick and Genny Harvanek, Peggy Henry, Richard Hood, Oren and Anna Mae Keibler, Irmgard Kuuskler, Lena Lowenadler, Grace Lucas, Audrey Mauro, Mary May, Betty Reagan, Barbara Salenske, Anna Sheasley, Helen Sward Marianne Trainor, Marge Wagle and Donna Yoder.

Audrey Ferris is our Prayer Circle coordinator. You can reach her at: (724) 327-3738 or by sending an email to: audrey.m.ferris@gmail.com

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

As you look at the prayer list this month, please note of any changes or updates that should be made and let the Church Office know by emailing office@christsmurrysville.org

MISSION PARTNERS

WE PRAY FOR OUR MISSION PARTNERS & FRIENDS:

The week of:

March 3

Linda Gould
Joseph & Jennifer Grabowski Jr. and Family
Vincent Grabowski
Robert & Lynn Graper and Family

March 10

Bill Gras
Bette Greenwald
Steve & Michelle Grieco and Family
Linda, Cameron & Ethan Guercio

March 17

Jayne Gustafson
John & Erin Guzzie and Family
Dave & Barb Hall

March 24

Joann Hauger
Jim & Peggy Henry
Tim & Suzanne Hileman
Aaron & Sarah Hoffman and Family

MISSION MOMENT CORNER

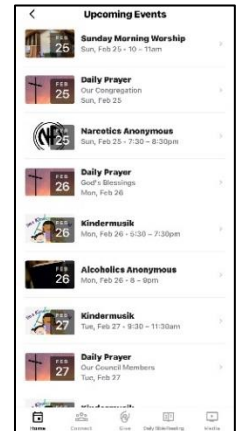
Christ's Lutheran Church is a Christ-centered and welcoming Christian community committed to encouraging faith-filled living, deepening friendships, and life-changing discipleship.

Christ's Lutheran Church is committed to supporting your journey of faith. We are focusing upon five faith practices that have helped Christians to lead faith-filled lives as we gather for worship each week during Lent. We are also encouraging Bible reading and prayer as we move forward ministry. This month, we are starting to use our new app – **Christ's Lutheran (ELCA)** – to fulfill our mission in several new ways:

1. We are making it easier than ever before to read the Bible and engage with scripture on a daily basis by including a daily Bible reading plan right on our new app! It's easy to access the Bible reading plan by tapping "Daily Bible Reading" at the bottom of your device's screen. You can then either start reading the Bible at any point, or you can tap "Plan" to read the same chapter of the Bible that other people in our congregation are reading that day. Helpful hint: If you want the app to read the passage to you, simply tap the arrow at the bottom of your device's screen. You'll want to be sure that you are listening to the ESV version of the Bible if you want to read along.



2. We are also making it easier than ever to pray for our church and our ministry. We've included a "Daily Prayer" for each day on the Church Calendar that you can access by simply tapping "Upcoming Events" on your phone or other device's screen. We will periodically change the daily prayer requests, so that we can support our church's ministry in our times of daily prayer. Helpful hint: We are including the "Daily Prayer" request as a daily event on our app's church calendar, so that it's easy to find the prayer request and know what part of our church's ministry to surround with your prayers each day.



We hope to continue to use our new app to support your journey of faith and to encourage prayer and Bible reading throughout our church. We also hope that our new app's Bible reading plan and our invitation to join our new "Daily Prayer" ministry will encourage faith-filled living and will create an even deeper sense of community at Christ's Lutheran Church.

MAKE NOISE FOR MISSION!!!

We celebrate the first Sunday of each month by putting change in two cans – one located on the offering table and one up front by the baptismal font. The donations benefit our sister church, Trinity Lutheran on the North Side, so let's all make some NOISE!!!





SAVE THE DATE for a RING PITTSBURGH Handbell Choir Concert at CLC! An evening of Music and Fellowship at 7:30 pm on Friday, May 3rd.



PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

We want to remind you that we have prayer shawls available for anyone who could use an expression of care in the form of a warm shawl. These shawls can be used by you personally or given to anyone you know who is going through a hard time, illness, grief, or perhaps celebrating a newborn, a milestone, or for any other reason you feel appropriate. Think of these shawls as a warm hug that lets someone know they're thought of and cared for.

Here's how it works:

Find the Prayer Shawl poster in the church narthex. The shawls will be displayed on a rack below it with explanatory gift cards and gift bags nearby. There will also be a pen and notebook attached to the rack with a ribbon.

1. Select the shawl you would like and place it and a gift card in a gift bag.
2. In the notebook, please indicate the date, who the shawl is for (just a first name is fine, if so desired) and their relationship to you.
3. If you would like the person added to our church's prayers, please let the church office know, along with any other information you would like to provide.

That's all there is to it! We hope these shawls will be a blessing to all recipients. If you would like more information about the Prayer Shawl ministry, would like to contribute to it (either completed prayer shawls or gift cards to Michaels or JoAnn Fabrics for yarn purchases), please contact Leslie Sill at sillec@hotmail.com.

Thank you,
The Prayer Shawl Committee

Welcome to the NexTrex Recycling Challenge!

Have you noticed two new plastic recycling bins at the church? Christ's Lutheran Church is now registered as part of the NexTrex plastic recycling challenge. We are part of a nationwide plastics recycling effort from the Trex company. Trex makes composite decking and other materials from recycled plastic. If we can collect 1,000 pounds of plastic in a 12-month period, the Trex company will give the church a Trex bench made from recycled plastic:



Trex Bench

Please bring your plastic items to the church and put them in the bins. The following items can be recycled (All plastic must be clean, dry, and free of food residue):

All plastic must be clean, dry and free of food residue.



Grocery bags



Bread bags



Bubble wrap



Dry cleaning bags



Newspaper sleeves



Ice bags



Plastic shipping envelopes



Ziploc & other reclosable food storage bags



Cereal bags



Case overwrap



Salt bags



Pallet wrap & stretch film



Wood pellet bags



Produce bags



You Are Invited to CampBlast!

Saturday, May 11th 2024, 11am-4:30pm

Join us for a day of FUN that highlights all that Lutherlyn has to offer. Pony rides, campfire, crafts, gaga ball, archery, zipline, bouldering room, hiking, nature activities, hay rides, games, sports, LEGO room, tours, great food, and MORE!

The best part.... **EVERYTHING IS FREE!**

www.lutherlyn.com/campblast

\$100 off for FIRST-TIME campers!

This coupon entitles FIRST-TIME Lutherlyn campers to \$100 off of the registration fee for Summer 2024. This applies to Lutherlyn's residential week-long programs. Young Folks half-week programs get \$50 off for FIRST-TIME campers. Does not apply to Family Camp, Confirmation Camp, Day Camps, or Small Fry Days.

Must be a FIRST-TIME summer camper.

No additional discounts may be combined with this offer.

Enter coupon code: **FIRST**

Register at **WWW.LUTHERLYN.COM**.

(Please share this code with friends!)

2024 Summer Camp Schedule

Week 1 June 16-21	-Staff-In-Training (SH) -Life in the Wild (JH) -Adventurers (JH & SH)	-Classic (Jr) (SH) -Horse Camp (JH & SH) -Confirmation Camp
Week 2 June 23-28	-Classic (Jr) (JH) -Horse Camp (Jr) -Small Fry Days (Th & Fri) -Confirmation Camp	-Adventurers (JH & SH) -Young Folks (Sun-Wed) -Grown Up & Me (Th & Fri)
Week 3 June 30 - July 5	-Family Camp -On-Site Day Camp (1st-5th grade)	
Week 4 July 7-12	-Arts & Musical (Jr & JH) -Classic (Jr) (JH) (SH) -Life in the Wild (Jr)	-Horse Camp (Jr) -Adventurers (JH & SH)
Week 5 July 14-19	-Classic (Jr) (JH) (SH) -Adventurers PLUS (SH) -Small Fry Days (Th & Fri)	-Horse Camp (JH & SH) -Young Folks (Sun-Wed) -Grown Up & Me (Th & Fri)
Week 6 July 21-26	-Classic (Jr) (JH) -Horse Camp (Jr) -Junior Adventurers (Jr)	-Venture (SH) -Rocketry (JH & SH)
Week 7 July 28- August 2	-Classic (Jr) (JH) -Rocketry (Jr) -Horse Camp (JH & SH)	-Night Owls (JH & SH) -Adventurers (JH & SH)

"Young Folks" - campers enter grades 2-3, "Jr" - campers enter grades 4-6,
"JH" - campers enter grades 7-9, "SH" - campers enter grades 10-12 or 2024 graduate

Registration for 2024 starts on February 1.
Camperships are available for all who need assistance.
Visit www.lutherlyn.com/summer for details.

IT'S HERE!!!



SubSplash

A New Way to Worship, Connect, and Engage

[https://www.christsmurrysville.org/uploads/8/2/4/4/82445598/subsplash - introduction and using the app - pdf version.pdf](https://www.christsmurrysville.org/uploads/8/2/4/4/82445598/subsplash_-_introduction_and_using_the_app_-_pdf_version.pdf)



Christ's Lutheran Church

Mar 2024 (Eastern Time - New York)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
25	26	27	28	29	1	2
						6pm - Saturday Worship
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
9am - Sunday School 10am - Sunday Worship 11am - Usher Training 6pm - Confirmation Class 7:30pm - NA Meeting	5:30pm - Kindermusik 6:30pm - Worship & 8pm - AA Meeting	9am - Sewing Group 9:30am - Kindermusik 5:30pm - Kindermusik 6:30pm - Support Team	9am - Property Team 9:30am - Kindermusik 5:30pm - Kindermusik 6pm - Girl Scouts	9:30am - Kindermusik 6:30pm - ESAL		Christ's Little Pantry 8:30am - Men's Breakfast 6pm - Saturday Worship
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Christ's Little Pantry 9am - Sunday School 10am - Sunday Worship 11am - Congregational 7:30pm - NA Meeting	5:30pm - Kindermusik 6:30pm - Outreach Team 6:30pm - W & M Team 8pm - AA Meeting	9am - Sewing Group 9:30am - Kindermusik 5:30pm - Kindermusik 6pm - Girl Scouts 6:30pm - Support Team	9:30am - Kindermusik 5:30pm - Kindermusik 6pm - Girl Scouts	9:15am - Caring Hearts 9:30am - Kindermusik		6pm - Saturday Worship
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
9am - Sunday School 10am - Sunday Worship 7:30pm - NA Meeting	5:30pm - Kindermusik 8pm - AA Meeting	9am - Sewing Group 9:30am - Kindermusik 3:30pm - Synod BK Club 5:30pm - Kindermusik	9:30am - Kindermusik 5:30pm - Kindermusik 6pm - Girl Scouts	9:30am - Kindermusik 6:30pm - Council Meeting		6pm - Saturday Worship
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
9am - Easter Egg Hunt 10am - Sunday Worship 7:30pm - NA Meeting	5:30pm - Kindermusik 8pm - AA Meeting	9am - Sewing Group 9:30am - Kindermusik 5:30pm - Kindermusik 6pm - Girls Scouts	9:30am - Kindermusik 6pm - Girl Scouts	9:30am - Kindermusik 7pm - Maundy Service	7pm - Good Service	6pm - Saturday Worship 7pm - Easter Fellowship
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
10am - Sunday Worship 11am - Easter Fellowship 7:30pm - NA Meeting						

Also available on our church app:

https://www.christsmurrysville.org/uploads/8/2/4/4/82445598/subsplash_introduction_and_using_the_app_pdf_version.pdf

Or, on the church website

<https://www.christsmurrysville.org/uploads/8/2/4/4/82445598/jan2024calendar.pdf>