

Christ Lutheran Lamplighter



Christ Lutheran Church
400 Barclay Avenue
Forest Hills, PA 15221

February 2019

Contact Information

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Pastor Reverend Ronald Bright
pastor@christlutheranfh.org

Administrative Staff

Assistant to Pastor

Barb Mitchell

assistant@christlutheranfh.org

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Darlene James

officeassist@christlutheranfh.org

Officers and Committees

President Jim Law

Treasurer Steve Stern

Secretary Barb Mitchell

Financial Secretary Dee Law

Elders Cal Eggers, Glenn Filler, John Crawford and Al Dick

Trustees Frank Elaschat, John Sourbeer, Howard Lehman, Adam Orbell, Georgie Shirley

Education Gloria Stern, Susan Wagner, Lois Frerking

Finance Cal Eggers

Outreach Judy Chick, Jonathan Bright, Melissa Elaschat

Planning Kathy Sourbeer

Jeremiah was a Bullfrog, but Jesus is no Groundhog

Saturday, February 2, 2019 brings us Groundhog Day. This annual observance is quite an example of how a superstition gained national recognition in both the U.S. and Canada. Not to mention how adept the Punxsutawney locals have been in exploiting the event to promote tourism! Growing up and spending most of my life in Wisconsin, Puxatawny, PA might as well have been on the moon. Yet, here I am just a stone's throw from the main event. Pretty cool.

People are often compared to animals. Some are equated with snakes. Others are called tigers, dragons, sheep, oxen, and mules. Each of those animals has its own personality or features that seem to match that of the person in question. Groundhogs are known as very timid and shy creatures. The superstition does make a little sense then that if a groundhog sees its own shadow it will run back to its burrow. It just might. The deal about there being six more weeks of winter is, of course, something of a stretch.

What kind of animal would you compare Jesus to? I hate to say a lion, even though it seems to fit. Jesus says Satan is like a roaring lion seeking whom he may devour. It seems sacrilegious to compare Satan and Jesus to the same animal! So, what other animals compare to the Lord? Well, one that does NOT fit is the groundhog. Jesus wasn't scared of his own shadow. Even though his disciples fled for their lives when officials came for Jesus, the Lord stood firm all the way to the cross. He stands firm with you every day, even when you might get a little "groundhoggy." Thank you, Jesus, for being our constant companion and steadfast friend!

In the peace of Christ,

Pastor Ron Bright

Financial Snapshot July 1, 2018 to December 31, 2018	Actual	Budgeted
Offerings	\$108,925	\$93,610
Other Income	\$8,059	\$9,150
Total Income	\$116,984	\$102,760
Missions	\$1,700	\$1,700
Staff costs (pay, benefits, and taxes)	\$42,232	\$43,142
Utilities, maintenance, & other expenses	\$67,354	\$59,930
Emergency Maintenance	\$26,786	
Total Expenses	\$138,072	\$104,772
Net	-\$21,088	-\$2,012

NEWS FROM THE FLOCK

Baptism

Amelia Clare Lydon was brought to the waters of Holy Baptism by her parents Shawn and Jennifer Lydon on December 2, 2018. Her sponsors are Joseph Dzurenda and Suzanna Lydon-George. She is also the granddaughter of Diana Lydon.

Deaths

Ruth Hudson went to be with her Lord on December 19, 2018 at the age of 95. She was the wife of the late Bert Hudson. There was a Memorial Service given by Pastor Breight on December 29. She is survived by several children and grandchildren.

Tom Ackerman, father of Neil Ackerman died on December 20, 2018.

Cindi Hornak went to be with her Lord on January 11, 2019. She is survived by her husband Marty and sons Jeff and Jody and their families. Her Memorial Service is planned for February 2, 2019 at Christ Lutheran with a luncheon to follow.

Helen Knoche went to be with her Lord on January 10, 2019 in Tuscon, Arizona. Many of you knew her, as she was the mother of The Rev. Ernest J. Knoche.

In The News

Jonathan Breight was a dancer of The Nutcracker production of the Pittsburgh Ballet. He was at The School for the Deaf teaching students ballet.

Dylan McNutt won third place in the gingerbread house contest at the PPG Wintergarden. Get any tips from him as this is not the first year that he has won!

Tatia O'Connor is an adjunct at Point Park University for the course "Research for Advertising and Public Relations."

Meghan Elaschat competed in gymnastics at the Toon Town Meet recently. She took 2nd Place all around, 3rd place in the vault, 3rd place on bars, 4th on floor, 5th on balance beam.

Thank you to all the extra work around church during Christmas and Advent. The Christmas Eve Choir, special music by our Russian friend Michael and Doug our organist, people who decorated and undecorated the church and Fellowship Hall, Women's Service Guild and Linda Breight for preparing Advent Dinners, the office staff, Pastor, Doug, and anyone else involved -- THANK YOU for all your work to glorify our Lord in this place and proclaim HIS birth!

Please send me any information you want me to give a shout out about for future Lamplighters at ksourbeer@aol.com.

Neil Ackerman's fiancé Lynn and son James arrived in Pittsburgh from the Philippines Jan 17. We welcome them to the U.S. and pray God's blessings on their marriage in March.

Vince Mroz began as an on-campus student at IUP for the spring semester. We pray God's blessings on him as he continues to prepare for the pastoral ministry.

Women's Service Guild

ALTAR GUILD – Contact Ruth Hirko if you want to be part of the Altar Guild committee. They change the altar par-
aments for the church seasons, set up for communion, etc.

HELPING HANDS - People set-up, prepare, and serve funeral luncheons. They also serve Lenten and Advent din-
ners.

QUILTING – Sew top, middle (mattress pads and backs together.) Sew the quilt together with yarn (make one stitch
in and out) and tie two knots. We will meet February 5 & 19, 2019 at 9 am (depending on the weather.) Contact
Joyce Purucker for more information.

STAMPS – Collect canceled stamps for Bibles for missionaries, prisons, etc. Cut the envelop in half and put them in
the blue bin in the library. The stamp cutters will cut them to the correct size.

TELEPHONE COMMITTEE – If you have moved or know a church member who has moved, changed phone num-
ber, etc. or changed your e-mail address, contact Barbara Mitchell or Rosalie Filler. This enables the church to contact
members if there is an emergency closing, or funeral information.

SHUT-INS – Our church members who are unable to come to church enjoy getting mail from their church friends.
Contact Joyce Purucker if you want to be part of the shut-in team. You will be given a letter, suggested mailing sched-
ule, prayer petition note, a list of the shut-ins with their names, addresses and birth dates.

PRAYER SHAWLS – Do you have a relative, friend, neighbor who may be seriously ill and may need comforting?
Contact Linda Bright or Jayne Simpson about obtaining a prayer shawl or lap robe.

PORTALS OF PRAYERS – Ruth Hirko takes the old editions of the Portal of Prayers to the Sonshine Kitchen. They
use them as devotions or Bible studies for the people who go to the Sonshine Kitchen.

ALTAR FLOWERS – Honor a loved ones birthday, anniversary, graduation etc. by placing flowers on the altar. The
cost is \$30 or additional flower vase is \$15.00. Mark you name on the flower chart on the narthex bulletin board. Pay-
ment is due when flowers are placed on the altar. If you put the payment in an envelope, mark the envelope as “Altar
flowers”.

MITE BOXES – Most people toss their loose change in some sort of container. The Women Service Guild has Luther-
an Women Missionary League Mite boxes on the shelf in the Narthex. Monies from these boxes are used to support
the Lutheran Women Missionary League Mission programs. See the list on the Fellowship Hall bulletin board.

RECYCLING – Starting your “spring” house cleaning or resuming your “fall/winter” house cleaning and don't know
what to do with those old electronic items: I-pads, cell phones, kindles, computer ink cartridges, etc? Put them in the
bin in the church library. The Lutheran Women Missionary League is able to receive money from these items for the
various mission programs that they are supporting.

SONSHINE KITCHEN - “I was hungry and you fed Me.” The Women Service Guild serves hot ham and cheese sand-
wiches, potato salad, fruit cocktail at the Sonshine Kitchen. We will be serving them on Monday, April 1, 2019. There
will be a sign-up sheet for donated items and people serving.

KITCHEN REMODELING – Over the years many school meals, funeral luncheons, Lenten and Advent dinners, and
other dinners have been prepared, warmed, cooked and served. There has been a lot of “wear and tear” on the kitchen
cabinets, sinks, etc. The Women Service is planning to replace the cabinets, drawers, etc. This is a “HUGH” undertak-
ing. We have about 6 active members and several people who help at the funeral luncheons. We want to plan various
“fund raisers” to raise money for this humongous project. We need your help and support to do this.

WINTER BLUES LUNCHEON – After the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays are over, there seems to be a “gray period” until spring arrives. The Women Service Guild has a solution for this problem. Come to the Women Service Guild annual “Winter Blues Luncheon” on Saturday February 9, 2019 at Palmieri’s Restaurant in Plum. We will meet at 12 pm. Enjoy good food and fellowship with other women of the congregation. You don’t have to be a Women Service Guild member to attend. Reservation form below:

**Women’s Service Guild
“WINTER BLUES LUNCHEON”
Saturday, February 9, 2019**



All women of the Church are invited to chase those “winter blues” away and to attend our 7th Annual Luncheon at Palmieri’s, (951 Old Frankstown Rd., Plum, PA 15239) at 12:00 p.m. for fun and fellowship. Lunch will be served at 12:30. You won’t want to miss this luncheon – invite a friend - lots of good food, fun and most important a chance to be in Christian fellowship

Cost is \$20.00 for a Lunch served Family Style.
(includes tax, tip and soda, tea and/or coffee)
Menu includes: Chicken Romano, Baked Italian Cod, Eggplant Parmigianna, Potatoes & Pasta, Toss Salad, and Raw Vegetable and Cake for dessert.



Name _____

Please give reservation form and money to Dee Law or Rosalie Filler no later than day, February 3rd. Checks can be made out to CLC Women’s Service Guild.



Do you need a ride? _____
If yes, can you get to the Church by 11:30? _____

CHRISTMAS CARD TREE

Christmas cards were sent to the Christ Lutheran Congregation from the following Christ Lutheran members and businesses. They are in no particular order just how the cards were taken off the tree.

Gerry Hildenbrand
Janice, Jim, Justin, and Ryan Polidora
Lynne Fisher
Barb Mitchell
Georgiana Hanley
Steve and Gloria Stern
Dee and Jim Law
Lois Frerking
Judy Chick
Barb Urban
Keith Frndak, President & CEO
Concordia Lutheran Ministries

Linda and Pauline Kuenzi
Katherine Mastrocola
Sonshine Community Ministries
John and Helen Crawford
Pastor Winget, PALM President
Redeemer Lutheran School
Cal and Alma Eggers
Lutheran Heritage Foundation
John, Kathy and Katie Sourbeer
Marty Hornak

Addresses for our shut-ins

Shut-ins wishing to be added to the pastoral visitation schedule should call the church office at 412-271-7173.

Paul & Keretta Bruner
615 Horizon View Drive
Penn Hills, PA 15235

Fran Giese
310 Pennoak Drive
Pittsburgh, PA 15235

Lorraine Giebel
400 Barclay Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15221

Marty Hornak
Golden Heights
Room 208
3522 Rt 130
Irwin, PA 15642

Charles Koenig
Concordia Monroeville
4363 Northern Pike
Room 126
Monroeville, PA 15146

Allan Lindblom
825 East End Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15221

James & Ann Tubbs
41 Central Avenue
N. Versailles, PA 15137-1101

Carol Sapanara
7630 Morris St.
Verona, PA 15147

Pam Viher
406 Howard Street
East Pittsburgh, PA 15112

Henry Watkins
Golden Heights Apt. 4
3522 Rt 130
Irwin, PA 15642

Bob Yazvac
249 Lincoln Hwy Rm 110
North Versailles, PA 15137



February 2019 Prayer Petition:

"In your righteousness deliver me and rescue me; incline your ear to me, and save me! Psalm 71:2

Celebrating in February 2019

Anniversaries



- 2/12 Jim & Charlene Schorr
2/14 Tammy & Kevin Donaldson
Frank & Melissa Elaschat
2/17 Michael & Barbara Lis

Birthdays



- 2/01 Kathleen Kaclik
Tatia fe' O'Connor
2/05 Nancy Stephens
2/07 John Chain
Barbara Simmons
2/12 Audrey Marvenko
2/13 Tristen Slaczka
2/14 Donna Goralzick
2/21 Sonny Breeger
John Hoblak
Howard Lehman
Barbara Lis
2/24 Robin Schoenthal
2/27 Suzanna Lydon-George

Serving Christ in February 2019

Altar Guild: Ruth Hricko

Date	Worship Assistant	Acolyte	Lector
2/03	Paul Simpson	David Carmichael	Luanne Russel
2/10	John Hoblak	Dylan McNutt	Bob Brecht
2/17	Cal Eggers	Allison Stephens	Tammy Donaldson
2/24	John Crawford	Alana Donolo	Paul simpson

Church Service Times

Sunday

10:00am Divine Service

Bible Studies

Saturday

7:45am Men's Bible Study

Sunday

8:45am Sunday School ages 3-14

8:45am Adult Bible Study Groups

