

# Christ Lutheran Lamplighter



Christ Lutheran Church and School  
400 Barclay Avenue  
Forest Hills, Pennsylvania 15221

October 2015

## Contact Information

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Donna Einspahr  
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Melissa Elaschat  
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Barb Mitchell  
assistant@christlutheranfh.org  
Sally Powell  
officeassist@christlutheranfh.org

## Officers and Committees

President (Acting) Cal Eggers

Secretary Barb Mitchell

Treasurer Steve Stern

Financial Secretary Dee Law

Elders Cal Eggers, Mark Einspahr,  
Glenn Filler, Al Dick, Bob Karpinsky

Trustees John Crawford, John  
Sourbeer, Frank Elaschat

Education Georgianne Shirley,  
Gloria Stern

Finance Cal Eggers, Joe O'Connor

Outreach Charlene Schorr,  
Justin Polidora

Stewardship Stephanie Lydon,

Planning Kathy Sourbeer,  
Diana Lydon, Nancy Johnson

School Board Jim Law, Susan Wagner,  
Russell Long, Pat Lehnhardt,  
Larry Kagemann

## Affinity Night is coming!

**Affinity** *noun* af·fin·i·ty \ə-'fi-nə-tē\

: a feeling of closeness and understanding that someone has for another person because of their similar qualities, ideas, or interests

Christ Lutheran has engaged in a process to improve the health and growth of its church. That process is **Natural Church Development (NCD)**. Christ Lutheran is now positioned to undertake the second part of the diagnostic step of that five part process. That second part is Affinity Night.

Many people have now taken the NCD survey. The results of that survey will tell us what our minimum factor is. The minimum factor is the area of our church where we have the lowest quality. Not only is the minimum factor where we have the lowest quality, it is also the area that is preventing further church health and growth. Hopefully, everyone can understand why dealing with the minimum factor is of vital importance to Christ Lutheran's future.

Affinity Night is where we begin to deal with our minimum factor. The congregation will be invited to come together at a specific time. We will use a special technique during that assembly that will bring us to affinity - agreement - as to what is causing our minimum factor. We will all be on the same page, so to speak. Once we have completed that process, we will be ready for Step Three: Plan.

As pastor of Christ Lutheran and a member of the Church Health Team (CHT), I must confess that I have never done this before, and I am learning along with the rest of the CHT and congregation. From what I have seen, however, I believe the NCD process is just the kind of thing we need to see steady forward progress toward the kind of church we all want Christ Lutheran to be. I know God will bless us in this work, and we certainly look to Him, above all, to make good things happen here at Christ Lutheran. With that in mind, be watching for more on Affinity Night!

In the peace of Christ,

Pastor Ron Breight

# Women's Service Guild

## SEMINARY STUDENT

Tim Wells writes about the new addition to their family, a Chihuahua/terrier mix from the local animal shelter. They named him Sprint. Tim writes "that Sprint is well behaved, trained and cute, but he is not a pure-bred. Despite our mongrel status, and despite our sinful condition, our Savior, Jesus, came into this world to make us Children of God. We have been adopted by our Heavenly Father through Christ."

## PRAYER SHAWLS/LAP ROBES

If you know of someone who may be in need of a prayer shawl or lap robe, please contact the Women Service Guild. The women who make these items, pray for people who are in need spiritual and physical healing. "There are times when a special quilt is required to fill a need, provide comfort or give someone a blessing. On such occasions, we need to let those friends, or even strangers, know that we have been praying for them." ((Prayer Shawl Quilts quilting book)

## SONSHINE KITCHEN

Many thanks to the people who helped to prepare and serve the Sonshine Kitchen dinner September 21, 2015. Also, special thanks to the people who gave food items and monetary donations.

## QUILTING

We will meet on Tuesday, October 13 and 27, 2015 at 9:30 a.m. The quilting is easy to do. Just put the needle through the top, padding and back, pull the yarn through and tie with 2 knots and cut the yarn. These quilts will be taken to the Lutheran World Relief center and shipped to a third world country or a place that is in need of quilts such as disasters, etc. "Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms." (1 Peter 4:10) from Every Quilt has a Story by Nancy E. Mink.

## STAMPS FOR MISSIONS

"The postage stamp is a flimsy thing. No thicker than a beetle's wing and yet it will roam the world for you. Exactly where you tell it to "EV Lucas" (stamp quotes). This little flimsy thing (stamp) enables many 3<sup>rd</sup> world countries to get Bibles. There is a bin in the library for cancelled stamps. These stamps eventually make their way to the Canadian Bible Society. The Society is able to send Bibles to countries in need.

## ALTAR FLOWERS

The new altar flower chart should be in the church Narthex soon. Altar flowers are \$30. You can share a date with another person for an additional \$15. Payment should be made when flowers are placed on the Altar or as soon as possible. Contact Kathy Sourbeer for more information.

## SHUT-IN CARD

It is getting that time of the year when congregational members are asked to become part of the shut-in card committee. A mailing schedule is given to card senders to send cards to our congregational shut-in members. Hopefully, each month our shut-ins get a variety of cards from the volunteer senders. Contact Joyce Purucker or see the sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Hall

## TELEPHONE COMMITTEE

If you have moved, or know someone from the congregation who has moved, please give your new or their new address and phone number to Rosalie Filler or Barb Mitchell.

## WOMEN SERVICE GUILD

Upcoming meetings, activities will be listed in the church bulletins and future newsletters.

# School & Early Learning Center News

## “Changes”

Donna Einspahr, Principal/Director

It was time to write this article and God interrupted me by having me go and sub in the kindergarten gym class for a couple of days. I enjoyed that time with my young friends outside. It was also an inspiration for this article on CHANGE.

Fall is a beautiful time of year when we see can see nature *change*, especially the leaves of all size, shape, and colors. It reminds me of how our lives, too, are filled with *changes*. Children are born, grow, go to daycare/pre-school otherwise called “big kid” school by some, then they go to elementary school, then on to high school, then perhaps college, trade school or the military (whatever change God has planned), leave home, perhaps get married, have children of their own and so on and so on. It got me to thinking...this past year there’s been a lot of *changes* for the Einspahr household – celebrating our 25 anniversary, having Megan move back home, Eric starting confirmation, grandson Jace turning 2 already...etc... CHANGE- it can be a BIG and scary word for some people. Sometimes CHANGE can take a toll on our bodies and spirits. I’m sure you all have had experiences with CHANGE in your own lives this past year, too. It can become overwhelming sometimes. (That’s why the quiet of winter comes – but that’s for another article...)

However, even with all the *changes* that occur in our lives it’s a wonderful blessing to know that we have an *unchanging* God. During those seasons of life *changes* that we experience He has given us a gift and invitation to come to Him in prayer. And what’s more, no matter how much our lives are in a state of transition and *change*, He never *changes*. His love for us is constant and His truth and promises are eternal.

## FRIENDS FOR EDUCATION

CHANGE a child’s life by helping to sponsor them with their tuition fees. Help them to fill up their “tuition bucket.” You may send in your donation marked as “Friend for Education.” Every little bit makes a big difference and even an eternal difference. We have 40 students in K-8. We would like to help 8 more students to finish filling their tuition bucket. Can you help? \$25, \$50, \$100, \$1,000. See Donna Einspahr or Melissa Elaschat for details.

## STARS2

We are excited to have submitted our renewal for our STAR2 status for our early learning center. Everyone has been working hard to help us reach for the stars in quality care. We will begin working on the requirements to obtain a STAR3 status. We will keep you posted.

## PRAYER PARTNERS- “THERE IS POWER IN FOLDED HANDS”

We thank everyone who prays for us and our ministry here daily. We especially thank the following prayer partners who have adopted a class to pray for this year:

Infants – Pat Lehnhardt

Young/Older Toddlers – Gerry Hildenbrand

Preschool – Barbara Urban

Kindergarten – Kathy Sourbeer

1 & 2 – Mark Einspahr

3, 4, 5 – Karen Hoblak

6, 7, 8 – Carol Sapanara & Kyle Hubbard

Before/After School Care – Dawna Woodyear

Administrative/Office/Specials Staff – Susan Wagner & Pat Lehnhardt



## GOLF OUTING

A heartfelt special thank you to Susan Robotzen and her crew for hosting the annual golf outing that supports our tuition scholarship fund. Families appreciate it very much! Without this event, we would not be able to serve as many families as we do with a good solid Christian education. We will keep you posted of the funds that were raised at this event – watch your Sunday bulletins.

## NEEDED:

If you borrowed the red mixer in the kitchen over the summer please return it ASAP. We are in need of it for our food program. Thank you.

Accepting applications for Part-time Assistant Group Supervisor for after school care from 3-6pm.

Decorated Trunks – see information below

Chapel Mission Project: Operation Christmas Child

Please partner with our students and help us to collect items for needy children for Christmas. Our goal is 100 of each item. Items needed: Shoeboxes, flip flops, sunglasses, crayons/markers, small flashlight w/batteries, new washcloths, hard candy, combs/hair accessories, small toy that fits into your hand (McDonald toys work great or hotwheels, bouncy ball.)

## PTO INFORMATION

Comedy Auction Night tickets for November 14 are on sale - \$30 per person. Purchase your tickets on Sunday or during the week with Mrs. Einspahr.

Proceeds go to support special activities and programs for the students at Christ Lutheran School and Early Learning Center.

A New Family Fun Event – “Trunk or Treat” October 31<sup>st</sup> 5-7p.m.

We need volunteers to come and bring their decorated car trunk. You can also donate bags of candy to be handed out.

## WHAT IS “TRUNK OR TREAT?”

A “Trunk or Treat” is a PTO and outreach sponsored fall event. People gather and park their cars in the front parking lot. They open their trunks, or the backs of their vehicles, and decorate them. Then they pass out candy from their trunks. The event provides a safe family environment for trick or treaters, the children of our church, school and community.

When it comes to decorating your vehicle there are the more traditional choices, like decorating for Halloween and using pumpkins...

*NOTE: Our trick or treaters will generally be young children. So, please DO NOT use any scary items, like blood, bats, witches, spiders, monsters, gore, etc.*

However, there are many fun ways to decorate your trunk! The best way to plan your trunk is to pick a theme. Think of it like dressing yourself in a costume. You pick a theme and throw things together. Some great ideas are:

- Biblical Themes: Jesus Walking on water, Noah’s Ark, Jonah and the Great Fish, etc.
- A '70's themed vehicle. Throw down some shag and hang a disco ball. You can then wear a 'fro wig and tie dye. Or you can do 50's, 60's or 80's too.
- You could do Mother Goose and have a few little story settings around the trunk representing different nursery rhymes.
- You can dress as a clown and fill your trunk with balloons.
- Another great idea is a zookeeper who has lots of stuffed animals set about.
- One acted like their trunk was the back of a boat. They had fishing poles with paper fish and candy hanging from them.
- Beach or Luau theme. Open up the back of the vehicle, hang some towels and set up a boogie board against the door, set out beach chairs, use an umbrella. There are tons of things you could do with this. Wear your bathing suit over your clothes!
- NASCAR Theme - Display all your souvenirs
- Harvest Theme
- Sports Theme (pick a sport) - Team displays are popular
- Popular Kid's Themes: Sesame Street, Sophia the First, Disney Princess, Other Disney themes, Veggie Tales, Backyardigans
- Animal Themes - Stuffed animals count!
- G-Rated Movie Themes (Keep the kids in mind though)
- Western Theme
- Camping Out theme
- Christmas (or other holiday) Theme

Don't forget about a costume for yourself. The best and most interesting trunks have their owners dressed to match the theme.

There will be a prize for the most creative trunk.

# News From the Flock

## BAPTISMS

Helena Grace Woodyear, a second grade student at Christ Lutheran, was baptized on Sunday, June 7 at the First Service. She is the daughter of Samantha Woodyear. Her sponsors are John M. Woodyear III and Jacqueline M. Woodyear.

## MARRIAGE

David Giovanetti and Colleen Higgins were married on August 13, 2015 at Deep Creek Lake, Maryland. David is the son of Ruth Hirko. God's blessings on their marriage.

## NEW MEMBERS

We welcome into communicant membership John and Cindy Chain. They have transferred their membership from their congregation in Nebraska at the second service on September 20.

## DEATH

Our Christian sympathy goes to the family of Helen Karpinsky. Bob's 99 year old mother died on August 25 a few days before her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday.

## NEWS

Sonny Breeger's unit will be deployed September 22-30 to Philadelphia to guard the Pope when he visits.

Arlene Popko, sister of Joyce Purucker, will be participating in the South Hills Art League Art Show September 7-29 at St. Clair Hospital. She is also at Peters Township Library from now to October 22 and October 9-18 at the Galleria in Mt. Lebanon for the McMurray Art League Shows.

## THANK YOU

Thanks to all the people that worked at the church Picnic on September 13.

A big 'thank you' came from Pastor McCants at the Children's After-School Outreach Ministry at Unity Lutheran. Our support from Sunday School offerings of \$328.00 gives them more of an opportunity to continue their mission of providing, living and showing the love of God through His Word to the children who are labeled 'at-risk' in the Homewood-Brushton community. They nurture, mentor and feed the children. This school year they have seen a 2% increase in attendees. Thanks for your caring support in this worthwhile ministry.

## Serving Christ in October

		Worship Assistant	Acolyte	Lector	Usher
October 4	8:15am	Paul Simpson	Madison Stephens	Paul Simpson	John Hoblak
	11:00am	Cal Eggers	Meghan Elaschat	Mark Einspahr	Frank Elaschat
October 11	8:15am	John Hoblak	Timothy Breight	Barb Mitchell	Bob Brecht
	11:00am	Glenn Filler	Meghan Elaschat	Gloria Stern	Frank Elaschat
October 18	8:15am	Paul Simpson	Timothy Breight	John Hoblak	John Hoblak
	11:00am	Mark Einspahr	Eric Einspahr	Kyle Hubbard	Justin Polidora
October 25 Reformation	8:15am	Mark Einspahr	Allison Stephens	Lois Frerking	Bill Kolb
	11:00am	Al Dick	<i>Crucifer:</i> Jordan Stephens Eric Einspahr <i>Crucifer:</i> Richard Lander	Georgi Shirley	Miguel Breight

# Celebrating in October



## Birthdays



## Anniversaries

1 Sandra Uram	18 Kelly Giovanetti	5 Wayne & Frances Giesey
2 Kyle Hubbard	David Uram	11 Joshua & Jessica Kuhns
3 Tammy Donaldson	20 Seth Kuhns	14 Gregory & Natalie Pollitt
4 Mike George	21 Jennifer Matthews	27 Zachary & Amanda Chick
10 Mackenna Matthews	22 Susan McEwen	29 James & Ann Tubbs
11 Mia Kuhns	26 John Sourbeer	30 John & Georgianna Hanley
13 Joseph O'Connor	27 Melissa Smith	31 Robert & Joan Yazvac
14 Lee Bognar	29 Linda Hite	
Joan Yazvac	30 Stephanie Lydon	
15 Natalie Pollitt	31 Carla McClelland	

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## Addresses for our shut-ins

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

**Helen Deschamps**  
522 Pacific Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15221

**Louise Garofolo**  
Independence Court  
279 Center Road  
Room 204  
Monroeville, PA 15146

**Marty and Cindy Hornak**  
Seneca Place, Room 134  
5350 Saltsburg Road  
Verona, PA 15147

**Ruth Hudson**  
214 Orin Street  
Pittsburgh, PA 15235

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

**Allan Lindblom**  
825 East End Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15221

**Jean Tokar**  
6501 E. Mescal Street  
Scottsdale, AZ 85254-5058

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

**Pam Viher**  
406 Howard Street  
East Pittsburgh, PA 15112

**Tom Walton**  
7906 Riverview Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15218

**Henry Watkins**  
817 Alpine Blvd.  
Pittsburgh, PA 15221

**Bob & Joan Yazvac**  
979 Wilkins Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15221

**June Zeller**  
Evening Star  
200 Caldwell Avenue  
Wilmerding, PA 15148

**Olga Zinn**  
Buckingham South  
5450 Abercorn Street, Ste.405  
Savannah, GA 31405



### October Prayer Petition

*Fight the good fight with all your might; Christ is your strength and Christ your right. Lay hold on life, and it shall your joy and crown eternally.*

Hymn 299, Lutheran Worship

## Church Service Times

Sunday

8:15am & 11:00am - Traditional services



## Bible Studies

Saturday

7:45am Men's Bible Study

Sunday

9:45am Sunday School ages 0-18

9:45am Adult Bible Study Groups

## Bible Studies and Sunday School Classes

*Growing in Christ* curriculum from Concordia Publishing Company for Preschool-Confirmation age children.

Lower grades (ages 3-7) are taught by Kathy Hanley and Kathy Sourbeer.

Upper grades (ages 8-12) are taught by Susan Robotzen and Gloria Stern.

High School classes discuss teen issues and are led by Charlene Schorr.

Adult Bible Classes on Sunday are led by Hal Wagner which study the readings for each Sunday morning.

Mark Einspahr leads a class about spirituality and the Bible

Barry Schoenthal leads a class about 1 and 2 Corinthians.

Saturday mornings the men's group is currently studying 2Kings

Visit our website for additional information and for our  
complete church and school calendars

[www.christlutheranfh.org](http://www.christlutheranfh.org)