

Christ Lutheran Lamplighter

Christ Lutheran Church
400 Barclay Avenue
Forest Hills, Pennsylvania 15221

APRIL 2025

Contact Information

Phone: 412-271-7173

Web: www.christlutheranfh.org

Facebook: [ChristLutheranChurchFH](https://www.facebook.com/ChristLutheranChurchFH)

Staff

Pastor-The Reverend Ronald Bright
pastor@christlutheranfh.org

Vicar-Vincent Mroz

Assistant to Pastor
Barb Mitchell
assistant@christlutheranfh.org

Office Assistant
Jana Savelkova
officeassist@christlutheranfh.org

Officers and Committees

President: Jim Law

Treasurer: Stephanie Lydon

Secretary: Barb Mitchell

Financial Secretary: Dee Law

Elders: Cal Eggers, Glenn Filler, John Crawford, Richard Mueller

Trustees: Lee Caton, Frank Elaschat, Lynn Fisher, Dave Wible, Megan Elaschat, Michael George

Education: Annette Bowen, Lori Schriver, Gloria Stern

Finance: Cal Eggers, Stephanie Lydon, Barry Schoenthal, Richard Mueller

Outreach: Ruth Hirko, Kathy Kaclik

Endowment Committee: Cal Eggers, Glenn Filler, Kathy Sourbeer

Celebrating 92 years in Forest Hills

He Is Risen: The Promise of Eternal Life

As we enter the month of April, our hearts turn once again to the profound significance of Easter. This is the season of resurrection, of renewal, and of the triumphant victory of Jesus Christ over sin and death. Easter is not merely a historical event we remember; it is the foundation of our faith and the hope that sustains us in all circumstances.

When the women arrived at the tomb early that first Easter morning, they were met with an astonishing message: "He is not here; He has risen, just as He said" (Matthew 28:6). These words changed everything. The resurrection of Jesus was not just proof of His divinity, but also the guarantee of our eternal life through Him. Because He lives, we too shall live (John 11:25-26).

In a world where uncertainty and hardship often weigh us down, Easter reminds us that death does not have the final word. The empty tomb is God's declaration that love is stronger than hate, light overcomes darkness, and life triumphs over death. For those who believe in Christ, this promise of eternal life is not just a distant hope—it is a present reality that shapes how we live each day.

In the coming Easter season, we celebrate with joy, not only because of what Jesus has done but because His resurrection means we will also rise to eternal glory. We are invited to walk together in newness of life, to trust in His promises, and to share this glorious hope with the world.

Blessings in the love of Christ,

Pastor Ron Bright



Financial Snapshot from July 1 2024 to February 28 2025	Actual	Budgeted
Offerings and other income	\$155,476	\$161,464
Missions	\$4,000	\$3,600
Staff	\$66,774	\$75,116
Operations	\$82,748	\$85,410
Total expenses	\$153,522	\$164,126
Net Gain/Loss	\$1,954	\$-2,662

NEWS FROM THE FLOCK

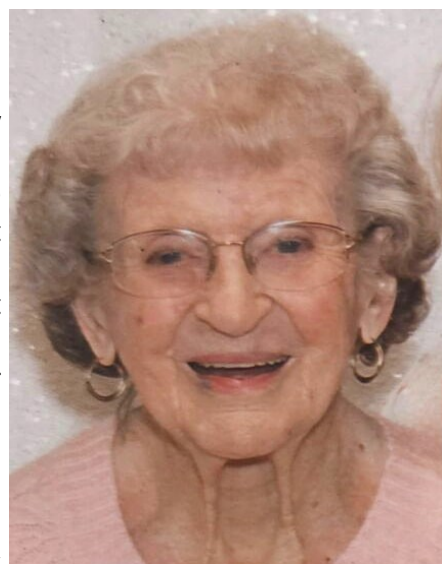


Pastor Bright and Linda took a missionary trip to Ethiopia in March. They especially enjoyed their time with local children.



LAURETTA CRITCHLOW OBITUARY

Lifetime Forest Hills and Wilkinsburg resident, Lauretta Carolyn Schirra Critchlow, passed away peacefully on Thursday, March 13, 2025, at the age of 100. Born August 3, 1924, in Wilkinsburg, Lauretta was the eldest child of Edna Link and Ernest Schirra. Her siblings are brother, Ernest; and sister, Sylvia. After graduating from Wilkinsburg High School and working at a bank



during WWII, she married James Kingsley Critchlow in 1948. They were married for 55 years and together had four children. She worked in coordination with her husband in his work as a certified public accountant and part-time at Forest Hills Transfer and Storage for many years. Lauretta was an active and devoted member of Christ Lutheran Church in Forest Hills, where she taught Sunday School and Vacation Bible School. During WWII, she and a group of her friends met together to sew and socialize. They simply called themselves "the club girls," and these friendships lasted over 75 years. Her children remember her as a kind and devoted mother. Her grandchildren and great-grandchildren hold fond memories of visiting her warm and loving home. Lauretta is survived by her sister, Sylvia Campbell of Verona; her children, James Critchlow (Cindy) of Gettysburg, Carolyn Redfoot (Joel) of Wexford, Deborah Goad (Jerry) of Lakewood, CO, and Karen Morrison (Jack) of Milton, DE; 10 grandchildren and their spouses; and 12 great-grandchildren.

Women's Service Guild

LWML MITES—If you think pocket change is insignificant, just look what the Women's Service Guild has done! **We have collected \$515.41 in change to support missions.** If you have a heart for missions, you can pick up a Mite Box in the narthex or in the entry area by the office. One hundred percent of the money collected is sent to missions voted on at the district and national level. To drop off your money, put it in the blue box in the narthex. No amount is too small. Together Women in Mission make extraordinary things happen.



ALTAR GUILD – Contact Ruth Hirko about serving on the altar committee. They set up for Holy Communion, change altar parameters, launder the communion napkins, etc. New members are needed.

HOTEL TOILETRY ITEMS – The WSG distributes hotel toiletry items to veterans in need. There is a bin in the library for donations or see Dee Law for more information.



TELEPHONE & E-MAIL COMMITTEE If you know a member's new address, phone or e-mail address, please give it to Barb Mitchell or Rosalie Filler. If you move or change information, please remember to notify the office.



STAMPS – Remember to slit open the bottom of the envelope, cut the envelope in half and give the canceled stamps to Lois Frerking or put them in the box in the library. These stamps enable the Canadian Bible Society to raise funds to purchase Bibles for prisoners and foreign missions to get Bibles in their native language.



PORTALS OF PRAYER – Current and back issues of the Portals of Prayer are available on the table in the library. Feel free to take a copy or two for friends or neighbors you feel could benefit from these.



ALTAR FLOWERS—The flower chart is posted on the bulletin board in the narthex of the church. Please check the chart for available dates. The cost of the flowers is \$40. Make checks payable to WSG and put check in locked mailbox by the far office door.

BOX TOPS EDUCATION – The Box Tops for Education has been phased out and your grocery bill is now being scanned for Box Tops items that you have purchased. There is a bin in the library for the Box Tops for Education. Give Lois Frerking your grocery receipt to scan. Monies collected goes to Redeemer Lutheran Church school. See Lois for more information.



PRAYER SHAWL/LAP ROBE MINISTRY – Even though many of us cannot physically comfort a loved one or friend, we can still do so by giving them a shawl or lap robe. These were lovingly made by women of the congregation. Contact Linda Bright if you know someone who may need one or enjoy getting one.



SHUT-IN CARD MINISTRY – A new packet for 2025 is available. Included in the mailing is a mailing schedule, names, addresses, and birthdates. Participants are asked to mail only one or two cards a month. Contact Lee Bognar or Kathy Sourbeer if you wish to participate this year.

UPDATE TO RECYCLING – The Lutheran Women's Missionary League is still accepting ink cartridges for recycling, but they are no longer accepting electronics. Thank you for all your help in the past.

HELPING HANDS – When there is a funeral luncheon or special occasion, women are needed to set up and prepare things, etc. Contact Rosalie Filler to become part of this very important ministry in our church.



QUILTING – No experience necessary. It is like sewing on a button - in and out and tie two knots. We are in need of old king and queen size mattress pads (for batting), top and bottom sheets for the back. If twin size sheets are donated, they will be pieced together to make 64x84 back. Regular batting material is also greatly appreciated. Pictured is the latest quilt made for the veterans. Contact Dee Law if you will be able to attend. Watch the Sunday bulletin for times and dates.



2023–2025 Mission Grant #14
Water and the Word
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Kenya—\$80,000

About This Mission Grant

Students in schools and orphanages sponsored by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Kenya (ELCK) lack clean water and regular access to pastoral care. Water and the Word, based in Thermopolis, Wyoming, works with the ELCK to improve water systems for the schools. After evaluating a school's needs, Water and the Word installs water harvesting equipment (rain gutters and tanks), locally sourced filters, hand wash stations, and clean water storage systems. Students and staff are taught about personal hygiene, handwashing, and the importance of drinking only clean water.

After installation, an ELCK pastor (trained in water equipment) visits the schools every 3–4 months to ensure that the water system is working, visits with the children, and provides needed pastoral care.

This grant will provide clean water and cover travel expenses for pastoral care to students in 12 additional schools and orphanages in Kenya.



Family Easter Egg-stravaganza



Join us for a fun-filled family event with crafts,
storytime and egg hunt!

Saturday April 12

10am-12pm

Christ Lutheran Church

Please register by calling the office at 412-271-7173,
scan the QR code or click [here](#).



Important Dates in April 2025

Check the online calendar on the church website for up-to-date information

Apr 2—Lenten Supper 5:45pm/Service 7pm
Apr 7—Vocal Choir Rehearsal 7pm
Apr 9—Education Committee Meeting 4:30pm
Apr 9—Lenten Supper 5:45pm/Service 7pm
Apr 12—Family Easter Egg-stravaganza 10am
Apr 13—Palm Sunday
Apr 14—Vocal Choir Rehearsal 7pm
Apr 15—Lamplighter Deadline
Apr 15—Tax Day
Apr 15—Council Meeting 7pm
Apr 17—Maundy Thursday—Worship 7pm
Apr 18—Good Friday—Worship 7pm
Apr 20—Easter Sunday—Sunrise Service 6am, Divine Service 10am
Apr 21—Easter Monday
Apr 21—No Vocal Choir Rehearsal
Apr 23—Christ Lutheran Church Anniversary
Apr 24—Outreach Meeting 7pm
Apr 26—PALgS Golf Outing
Apr 28—No Vocal Choir Rehearsal

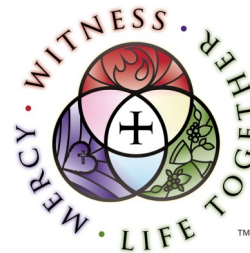


Church and Bible Class Times

Sunday
10 am Divine Service

Adult Bible Studies
8:45am-9:45am

Sunday School/Confirmation
Sunday-11:30am



Addresses for our Shut-Ins

Catherine Ertman

3000 Locust Ave. Apt 319
Braddock Hills, PA 15221

Bob Lindke

2190 Ipnar Road
Irwin, PA 15642

Audrey Marvenko

846 Joan Drive
North Versailles PA 15137

Robert & Bette Hamill, Jr.

1413 Maple Ave.
Turtle Creek, PA 15145

Pat Lehnhardt

Concordia of Fox Chapel
931 PA-910, Room E6
Cheswick, PA 15024

Ann Tubbs

41 Central Avenue
N. Versailles, PA 15137-1101

Robert & Audrey Karpinsky

203 Stockton Ridge
Cranberry, PA 16066-2261

Carol Logsdon

Point Pleasant Asstd.Living Room 331
120 Mosside Blvd.
North Versailles, PA 15137

Jim and Evelyn Wise

Sheridan @ Bethel Park
2000 Cool Spring Drive, Room 355
Bethel,Park, PA 15234

June Kolb

Goodwill Retirement Rm 4106
891 Dorsey Hotel Rd.
Grantsville, MD 21536

Russell Long

606 Filmore Ave.
Pittsburgh PA 15221

Anyone wishing to be added to
the pastoral visitation schedule,
please call the church office at
412-271-7173.

**April Prayer Petition**

This is the day that the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Psalm 118:24

Celebrating in April 2025

Anniversaries

7-Apr William & Linda Hite
21-Apr Russell & Judith Long
23-Apr James & Evelyn Wise



Birthdays

3-Apr Amanda Breight
4-Apr Kevin Hanley
4-Apr Jim Schorr
5-Apr Makayla Schriver
6-Apr Gunner Kiester
11-Apr Emily Pollitt
13-Apr Julia Stoner
18-Apr Nancy Johnson
23-Apr Erica Berthoud
23-Apr Janice Polidora
28-Apr John Crawford

EASTER FLOWERS



If you would like to help decorate our church for Easter morning, and then have a lovely plant to take home with you, please fill in this form, along with the amount due and give to Dee Law. The last day to order will be Sunday, April 1, 2025. You may take your flowers with you after the 10 a.m. service on Easter Sunday. Checks are payable to CLC/WSG.

NAME _____

___ I would like to give my flowers to shut-ins

Flowers	Amount	Total Cost	In honor/memory of, or thankfulness for: (optional)
Palm Plants (4 needed for Altar)		@ \$30.00	
Lilies, White		@ \$12.00	
Daffodils		@ \$11.00	
Tulips, Yellow		@ \$11.00	
Tulips, Red		@ \$11.00	
Tulips, Pink		@ \$11.00	
Tulips, Purple		@ \$11.00	
Hyacinths, White		@ \$11.00	
Hyacinths, Purple		@ \$11.00	
Hyacinths, Pink		@ \$11.00	
Hydrangeas, Pink		@ \$21.00	
Hydrangeas, Blue		@ \$21.00	
Azalea		@ \$22.00 =	
Mums		@ \$16.00 =	
Total		Total Cost	

***HISTORIC LANDMARK TOUR ST. JOHN'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH
CIRCA 1828-1831
& ORGAN PERFORMANCE
APRIL 5, 2025 - 1PM-2:30PM
AMBRIDGE, PA***

Includes:

1PM "Harmonist Harmonies and Lutheran Liturgics" performance on the 1953 Hillgreen, Lane & Co. Organ performed by Andrew Whaples, Student Organist of Geneva College & Associate Organist for Calvin Presbyterian Church

1:45 PM Presentation on history of church building and Harmonist religious practices by retired Pastor Gordon Strunk.

Free Will Donation benefits the church.



***RESERVATIONS PREFERRED at Historicdistrict@gmail.com
Presented by Ambridge Historic District EDC in conjunction with
St. John's Lutheran Church
<https://www.stjohnsambridge.org/our-activities>***

83rd
Pittsburgh
Area
Lutheran

YES! I plan on
celebrating 42 years at the
83rd PAL_gS!

The following will be playing @ \$90.00
per golfer on April 26, 2025 at 9:00am
at Victory Hills Golf Course

357 Pineview Drive Elizabeth PA 15037:

Golf
Scramble

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

I would like to **ADDITIONALLY** support
Christian Education for P.A.L.g.S. with my gift of
\$ _____, in celebration of the many
years of enabling Christian Education for children.

Pittsburgh
Area
Lutheran
Golf
Scramble

83rd



9:00AM
Shot Gun Start



Please guarantee your participation by
Monday, April 21, 2025

Call/send registration/check to:
Attention: Golf
Christ Lutheran
Church
400 Barclay Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15221
412-271-7173
Check payable: CLC

Saturday, April 26, 2025

\$90.00 per person provides:
Support for Lutheran Education
Green Fee & Riding Cart

Our Buffet Dinner
*Chicken, pulled pork, kielbasa & kraut,
green beans, rigatoni, coleslaw,
beer, pop, coffee, tea...PLUS!
and...
HOTDOG @ THE TURN!!!*



**Any monetary or
prize donations are
very much
appreciated**



Christ Lutheran Church

400 Barclay Avenue Forest Hills, PA 15221

Phone: 412-271-7173 Fax: 412-271-4921

www.christlutheranfh.org

83rd Pittsburgh Area Lutheran Golf Scramble (P.A.L.g.S.)

Saturday, April 26, 2025

9:00 a.m. **SHOT GUN** Start

It's time for another P.A.L.g.S. (Pittsburgh Area Lutheran Golf Scramble) outing. It will mark 42 years of golfing participation of Lutherans and non-Lutherans from all over the Greater Pittsburgh area. This will be the 83rd outing held over the past 42 years, where many golf enthusiasts have worked to make each outing a unique experience.

Since 1983 the outings have been held at **Victory Hills** in Elizabeth, PA. To continue in the tradition the banquet will include the favorite and most delicious buffet, and recognition of participating golfers.

There will be special prizes and awards to mark this 42nd year milestone. **The registration fee is \$90.00 per golfer.**

Your guaranteed registration deadline is Monday, April 21, 2025. Call with your foursomes (412-271-7173), or send names and payment (**checks made out to CLC**) to:

GOLF
Christ Lutheran Church
400 Barclay Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15221.

We encourage all golfers, past and present, to be a part of this memorable event, as we celebrate all those who have participated in these outings since 1983. To be part of this gala, to donate prizes, or to share memorabilia, please call 412-271-7173.
See you on Saturday, September 28th!

Reverend Ronald Breight, Pastor



Christ Lutheran Church

400 Barclay Avenue Forest Hills, PA 15221

Phone: 412-271-7173 Fax: 412-271-4921

www.christlutheranfh.org

83rd Pittsburgh Area Lutheran Golf Scramble (P.A.L.g.S.)

Saturday, April 26, 2025

9:00 a.m. SHOT GUN Start

It's time for another P.A.L.g.S. (Pittsburgh Area Lutheran Golf Scramble) outing. It will mark 42 years of golfing of Lutherans and non-Lutherans from all over the Greater Pittsburgh area. We will again be having sponsorship holes at different levels if you are able to help in any way:

HOLE IN ONE LEVEL IS \$500 AND ABOVE

EAGLE LEVEL IS \$100 - \$499

BIRDIE LEVEL IS ANY AMOUNT UNDER \$100.

We will also put your name / company name on a sign and place it on different holes around the course. Let's see how successful we can be while having a great time as well. This will be the **83rd** outing held over the past 42 years, where many golf enthusiasts have worked to make each outing a unique experience.

If you or someone you know would like to donate an item for prizes or would like to sponsor a particular hole, we certainly would appreciate your generous support. This item is tax deductible at its fair market value as a "Gift in kind". It is a donor's responsibility to establish the value of this gift for income tax purposes. If the value is in excess of \$5,000.00 an appraisal must be obtained by the donor and attached to the donor's tax return. This receipt will be signed by the representative of Christ Lutheran when it is received and will be verification of receipt of the item by Christ Lutheran Church (for the I.R.S. # please call the Church)

Item Donated _____

Value\$ _____

Company Name: _____

Contact Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone # _____ Fax # _____

Please make any checks out to CLC:

GOLF

Christ Lutheran Church

400 Barclay Avenue

Pittsburgh, PA 15221

Reverend Ronald Breight, Pastor



Serving Christ in April 2025

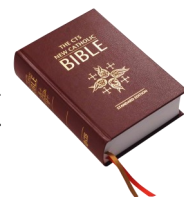
Altar Guild
April: Gloria Stern



Date	Worship Assistant	Lector	Acolyte
Apr 2	John Crawford	Lois Frerking	
Apr 6	Richard Mueller	Tammy Donaldson	Madeline Stoner
Apr 9	Cal Eggers	Anette Bowen	
Apr 13	Barry Schoenthal	Tatia O'Connor	Conner Schriver
Apr 17	John Crawford	Gloria Stern	
Apr 18	Richard Mueller	Lois Frerking	Conner Schriver
Apr 20 6am			
Apr 20 10am	Richard Mueller	Gloria Stern	Ryder Giovanetti
Apr 27	Cal Eggers	Lois Frerking	Ryder Giovanetti

LECTORS NEEDED

We are **in need of a few volunteers to be trained as lectors** for our services. It is not a difficult task and you won't be called upon that often if there are more volunteers. This is your church! Please contact the church office or see Pastor.



Please contact the church office by Friday at 10am at 412-271-7173 if you cannot fulfill the duty to which you have been assigned. If you are able to volunteer for any of these services, please let Jana know either by calling the church office or via email at officeassist@christlutheranfh.org. Thank you for your service.



We are collecting the brown pill bottles for the McKeesport Lions Club. Please remove the labels and wash them out. There must be a cap for each bottle and no vitamin bottles will be accepted. Thank you for helping with this ongoing project. Please put them in the box in the library.

The Lions are also collecting the pop tabs that are then given to Ronald McDonald House. They use the tabs because they have more pure aluminium than the cans themselves. There is a box in the library. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

