

Christ Lutheran Lamplighter

Christ Lutheran Church
400 Barclay Avenue
Forest Hills, Pennsylvania 15221

August 2025

Celebrating 92 years in Forest Hills

Vicar Vincent Mroz: a Journey of Faith and Service

For four years, Vicar Vincent Mroz has been a blessing to Christ Lutheran, serving as Bible Study leader, committee member, and substitute worship leader. Despite challenges in getting a college degree due to Covid-19 and limited support for hearing-impaired students, Vince persevered, completing the ELIT distance-learning program through Concordia Seminary, St. Louis. He finished his course work last month. His faithful companion, Maddie, a Yellow Labrador service dog, is always by his side, even at Tyke's service station where Vince works as an attendant.

Vince's dedication has led to a call from the Eastern District of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod as a pastor in Deaf Ministry. On August 24 at 3pm, Christ Lutheran will host a special ordination and installation service, followed by a celebratory dinner. We've watched Vince grow in faith and leadership, and now he embarks on a new chapter. Though the district offers limited financial support, we trust our community will rally to support Vince's ministry. Join us in celebrating his journey and consider contributing to help launch Vince into this vital work.

Together in the ministry of Christ,

Pastor Ron Breight



Contact Information

Phone: 412-271-7173

Web: www.christlutheranfh.org

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

Staff

Pastor-The Reverend Ronald Breight
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 Caton

Secretary: Barb Mitchell

Financial Secretary: Dee Law

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

Trustees: Lee Caton, Frank Elaschat, Megan Elaschat, Michael George

Education: Annette Bowen, Lori Schriver, Gloria Stern, James Sheets

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

Outreach: Ruth Hirko, Kathy Kaclik, Karen Dadey

Endowment Committee: Cal Eggers, Glenn Filler, Kathy Sourbeer

Financial Snapshot from Jul 1 2024 to June 30 2025	Actual	Budgeted
Offerings and other income	\$250,835	\$255,340
Missions	\$5,596	\$5,600
Staff	\$89,920	\$100,816
Operations	\$152,595	\$141,038
Total expenses	\$248,111	\$247,454
Net Gain/Loss	\$2,724	\$7,886

NEWS FROM THE FLOCK

Susan Robatzen and Lois Frerking recently attended LWML Mission Walk over the Missouri River from Omaha, Nebraska, to Iowa. This year was the first time the Mission Walk covered two states. The Walk was part of LWML Convention. Thank you, ladies, for representing our Church!



We welcome **Karen Dadey** to Outreach Committee. Thanks to all elected officers and committee members of our church, old and new, for their time and dedication for Christ Lutheran!



Barbara Simmons Obituary

Barbara J. Hoblak Simmons, age 66, passed away on Sunday May 18, 2025 with her daughter by her side. Barbara was born in McKeesport, PA on February 7, 1959 to John and Karen Hoblak. She married Joseph Simmons on May 5, 1984 and they were married for 19 years. They had 3 beautiful children together-Justin, Brandon, and Julia. Barbara dedicated her life to her family, but also found time to attend Connelley Technical Institute and become an LPN while raising 3 children. Barb enjoyed riding motorcycles, and sewing projects like potholders, quilts, and decorative items for friends and family. She also loved wolves and being close to the water. She could frequently be found cheering for the Pittsburgh Steelers and the Penguins and she rarely missed watching a Pens game. Barb was upbeat, helpful, loving, and generous to all who knew her. She made the best nut rolls, banana bread, and cabbage rolls for her family. She enjoyed playing bingo and loved a scratch-off ticket. All who knew her and got to spend time with her, loved her.

She is survived by her children, Justin (Kelley) Simmons, Brandon (Nicole) Simmons, and Julia Simmons, and her grandchildren, Lincoln, Liberty, Lyric, Amaya, Zoe, Noah, Nolan, Sadie, and Skye. She is also survived by brother James (Cindy) Hoblak, sister Susan (Edward) Davies, sister Kathleen Hoblak, sister Kristine (Robert) Karpinsky, brother Eric (Devera) Hoblak and many nieces and nephews, and Aunt Norma May of Minnesota and Aunt Marilyn Hannan of Colorado. She was preceded in death by her brother Johnathan, her parents Karen Hoblak and John Hoblak, and her former husband Joseph Simmons. Her memory will forever be cherished and she will be deeply missed.

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.



2023–2025 Mission Grant #17
Nurturing Faith for the Aging
Lutheran Ministries Media (Worship Anew) — \$100,000

About This Mission Grant

Lutheran Ministries Media (DBA Worship Anew) is well-known and established in the Lutheran community. It already reaches thousands of people throughout the United States with its 30-minute worship broadcasts and Hope-Full Living daily devotionals. It takes God's Word to a growing population of aging, unchurched, and those in desperate need of hearing the Gospel.



Worship Anew is rapidly growing each year and exceptionally positioned to reach a mass audience with the bold proclamation of our Lutheran doctrine through an expansion of printed and web-based resources. It seeks to nurture and strengthen the faith of aging adults by creating Biblical resources that address the concerns and difficulties of this critical stage of life.

This grant will help develop and continue to provide Gospel-centered resources to our aging population and many others.

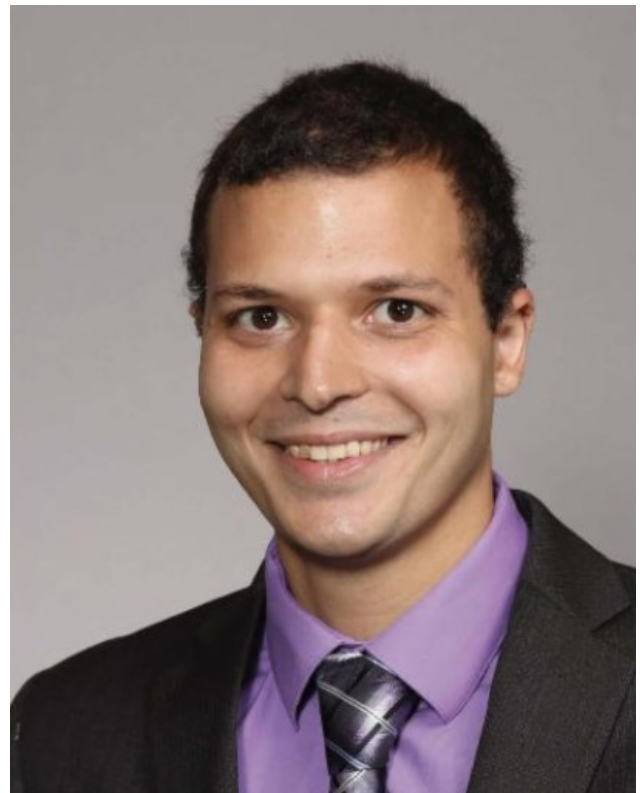
*And He appointed twelve, so that they would be with Him
and that He could send them out to preach, and to have
authority to cast out the demons. (Mark 3:14-15)*

Please join us for
**ORDINATION OF
VINCENT MROZ**

August 24, 3pm
Christ Lutheran Church

Reception follows.

Please RSVP to
assistant@christlutheranfh.org
by August 15, 2025.



Important Dates in August 2025

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

Aug 5—Council Meeting 7pm
Aug 13—Education Meeting 4:30pm
Aug 15—Lamplighter Deadline
Aug 24—Ordination of Vincent Mroz 3pm
Aug 27—Elders Meeting 4pm
Aug 28—Outreach Meeting 7pm



🎵 Please note: 🎵

Vocal choir rehearsals are paused 🎵
for the summer. Stay 🎵 tuned!
The practices will start again in
September.

Church and Bible Class Times

Sunday
10 am Divine Service

Bible Classes and Sunday School
do not meet over the summer.



Addresses for our Shut-Ins

Catherine Ertman

3000 Locust Ave. Apt 319
Braddock Hills, PA 15221

Pat Lehnhardt

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

Audrey Marvenko

846 Joan Drive
North Versailles PA 15137

Robert & Bette Hamill, Jr.

1413 Maple Ave.
Turtle Creek, PA 15145

Bob Lindke

2190 Ipnar Road
Irwin, PA 15642

Katherine Mastrocola

200 Union Avenue
North Versailles, PA 15137

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

Ann Tubbs

41 Central Avenue
N. Versailles, PA 15137-1101

June Kolb

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

Russell Long

606 Filmore Ave.
Pittsburgh PA 15221

Jim and Evelyn Wise

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

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



August Prayer Petition

"Pray without ceasing."
1 Thessalonians 5:17

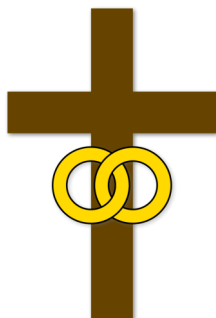
Celebrating in August 2025

Anniversaries

8/6 John & Helen Crawford
8/13 Miguel & Amanda Breight
8/13 David & Colleen Giovanetti
8/18 Barry & Barbara Schoenthal
8/29 Calvin & Alma Eggers

Birthdays

8/5 Jayne Simpson
8/9 Carol Hubbard
8/26 David Breight
8/27 Lee Caton
8/27 Kalie James
8/29 Barry Schoenthal

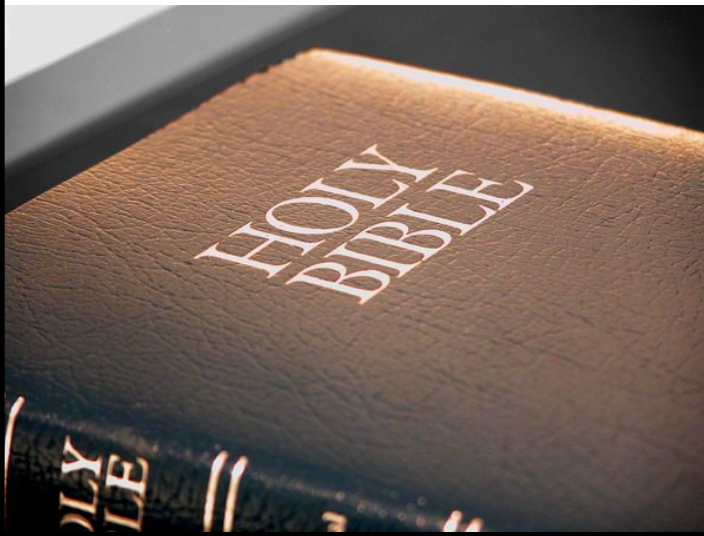


It's time to think about your next Bible Study!

- New Testament Survey with Pastor Breight
- Book of Proverbs with Barry Schoenthal
- The Book of Psalms with Pastor Mroz
- Biblical Heroes—how God worked through familiar Bible heroes that were far more human, unqualified and broken than we thought—with Gloria Stern

Classes begin on September 7 at 8:45 am. Sign up sheets will be distributed in the worship service folders mid-August.

Education Committee will host a **rally day luncheon** after the service on September 7th for our congregation. We hope to start our new adult and children's Bible Study and Sunday School classes that day! Join us for a delicious meal to celebrate another year of religious education.



Calling all cookie bakers!

We are having a cookie table as part of Vince's Ordination Dinner. If you are able to bake some cookies, please sign up on the sheet on the Fellowship Hall bulletin board. We ask that you either bring your cookies on a plate if you are bringing them on Sunday, or drop them off by Saturday morning, Aug 23 at 10am if you would like us to plate them. Any questions, please call or talk to Kathy Sourbeer.





Serving Christ in August 2025

Altar Guild
Susan Robatzen



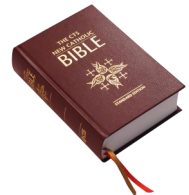
Date	Worship Assistant	Lector	Acolyte
3-Aug	Richard Mueller	Lois Frerking	TBD
10-Aug	Barry Schoenthal	Gloria Stern	Ryder Giovanetti
17-Aug	John Crawford	Tatia O'Connor	Ryder Giovanetti
24-Aug	Cal Eggers	Annette Bowen	Madeline Stoner
31-Aug	Richard Mueller	Tatia O'Connor	TBD

Sunday bulletins, news, puzzles, and sermons are available on our website
www.christlutheranfh.org.

Services are also streamed on our Facebook page
ChristLutheranChurchFH.

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 **office-assist@christlutheranfh.org**.



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.

