

# Christ Lutheran Lamplighter

Christ Lutheran Church  
400 Barclay Avenue  
Forest Hills, Pennsylvania 15221

**October 2025**

*Celebrating 92 years in Forest Hills*

## Reformation Spice

As the crisp autumn air sweeps in, carrying the rustle of colorful leaves and the first hints of winter's chill, one scent reigns supreme: pumpkin spice. It's everywhere—from lattes steaming in cozy cafes to candles flickering on mantels, evoking memories of harvest gatherings and family feasts. That warm, inviting aroma of cinnamon, nutmeg, ginger, and cloves blends into something greater than its parts, a comforting embrace that signals the season's joys. Who doesn't anticipate that first bite of pumpkin pie, its sweet, spiced filling offering solace amid shortening days?

Lutherans know fall brings another layer of richness: the Reformation, celebrated the last Sunday in October. Just as pumpkin spice transforms ordinary moments into something extraordinary, the Reformation infuses our faith with a divine "spice" that's eternally comforting. Think of it as God's own recipe for grace. Martin Luther's bold stand in 1517 wasn't about rebellion but rediscovery—unearthing the pure, sweet-smelling truths of Scripture. Like the nutmeg that adds depth to pumpkin pie, "Sola Scriptura" (Scripture alone) grounds us in God's unchanging Word, cutting through the blandness of human traditions.

Then there's the cinnamon-like warmth of "Sola Gratia" (grace alone), a free gift from God that melts away our fears, much like how spices soothe a chilly evening. And faith alone? It's the ginger's zing, awakening our souls to trust in Christ's redemptive work, not our own efforts. Together, these Reformation spices create an aroma of hope, forgiveness, and community that's as irresistible as a fresh-baked pie.

This October, as you savor your pumpkin spice treats, let them remind you of the Reformation's enduring flavor. Join us at Christ Lutheran on October 28<sup>th</sup> for our Reformation service and luncheon, where we'll celebrate this spiritual harvest. I also encourage you to attend the area-wide Reformation celebration at First Trinity in Shadyside later that afternoon. Taste and see—the grace of God is good, and its scent lingers forever!

In the truth of Christ,  
Pastor Ron Bright

## Contact Information

Phone: 412-271-7173

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

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

## Staff

**Pastor:** The Reverend Ronald Bright  
[pastor@christlutheranfh.org](mailto:pastor@christlutheranfh.org)

**Missionary:** Vincent Mroz

**Assistant to Pastor:**  
Barb Mitchell  
[assistant@christlutheranfh.org](mailto:assistant@christlutheranfh.org)

**Office Assistant:**  
Jana Savelkova  
[officeassist@christlutheranfh.org](mailto: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 2025 to August 31 2025	Actual	Budgeted
Offerings and other income	\$34,857	\$37,587
Missions	\$0	\$0
Staff	\$10,695	\$13,137
Operations	\$19,325	\$25,675
Total expenses	\$30,020	\$38,816
Net Gain/Loss	\$4,837	\$-1,229

## NEWS FROM THE FLOCK



Ryder Giovanetti finished the state championship in BMX in second place.

Congratulation, Ryder!



Zakary Aiden D'Alessandro was baptized and became a member of Christ Lutheran Church at the worship service on September 7th. Welcome to Christ Lutheran family, Zak!

Tammy and Kevin Donaldson's grandson Samuel was brought to the waters of holy baptism on August 10th. May he continue to grow in his baptismal grace.





# 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.



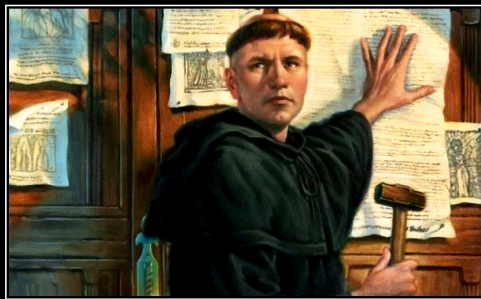
**2023–2025 Mission Grant #19  
Tanzania Children's Homes  
Evangelical Lutheran Church of Tanzania, Africa — \$74,500**

**About This Mission Grant**

The Tanzania Children's Home welcomes albino children to offer security, care, and education. Albinism (limited melanin pigment in the skin, eyes, and hair) is especially prevalent in Tanzania. Children with albinism face health risks of skin cancer and visual impairment and are threatened by the pagan practices of the tribal religions that falsely teach their body parts have magical powers to make one rich, successful, and powerful. The home offers security and specialized care for the children that their families cannot provide and is located on the campus of the Lutheran Boarding School in Mwadui. They are raised in the knowledge and love of the Lord and are transported to the Mwadui Lutheran Secondary School for their education.



This grant will help purchase a bus for safe transportation of the children and will contribute to the support of the children.



**I WENT VIRAL**  
BEFORE VIRAL WAS COOL

**Reformation Day  
October 31**



**Nate Patsko**  
served as acolyte for the first time  
during service on September 14th.

# Important Dates in October 2025

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

Oct 1—Handbell Choir Rehearsal 6:30pm  
Oct 4—Oktoberfest in Cabot 4pm  
Oct 5—Guest Pastor Adam Salinas 10am  
Oct 6—Vocal Choir Rehearsal 7pm  
Oct 8—Education Meeting 4:30pm  
Oct 8—Handbell Choir Rehearsal 6:30pm  
Oct 13—Columbus Day  
Oct 13—Vocal Choir Rehearsal 7pm  
Oct 15—Lamplighter Deadline  
Oct 15—Elders Meeting 4pm  
Oct 15—Handbell Choir Rehearsal 6:30pm  
Oct 19—Voters Meeting 11:30am  
Oct 20—Vocal Choir Rehearsal 7pm  
Oct 22—Handbell Choir Rehearsal 6:30pm  
Oct 26—Reformation Sunday & Luncheon  
Oct 27—Vocal Choir Rehearsal 7pm  
Oct 29—Handbell Choir Rehearsal 6:30pm  
Oct 30—Outreach Meeting 7pm  
Oct 31—Reformation Day



**Full Calendar:**



## 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

## 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

## Audrey Karpinsky

203 Stockton Ridge  
Cranberry, PA 16066-2261

## Carol Logsdon

Point Pleasant Asstd.Living Room 331  
120 Mossie 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.



## October Prayer Petition

"The LORD is my light and my salvation—  
whom shall I fear? "  
Psalm 27:1

# Celebrating in October 2025

## Anniversaries

14-Oct Lori & Kirk Schriver  
19-Oct Linda & Gerald Waggoner  
27-Oct Zachary & Amanda Chick



## Birthdays

1-Oct Sandra Uram  
2-Oct Kyle Hubbard  
3-Oct Tammy Donaldson  
4-Oct Mike George  
11-Oct Linda Waggoner  
13-Oct Joseph O'Connor  
14-Oct Lee Bognar  
15-Oct Natalie Pollitt  
18-Oct Kelly Hess  
18-Oct David Uram  
26-Oct John Sourbeer  
29-Oct Linda Hite  
30-Oct Stephanie Caton





# Oktoberfest 2025

Saturday, October 4, 4 - 8 p.m.  
Haven I



**For your Enjoyment:** The Mikey Dee Polka Band

**For your Appetite:** German-Themed Menu, Bake Sale

**For your Kids:** Bouncy Castle, Balloon Artist, Games, Pumpkin Decorating, Free Food and much more

**For your Curiosity:** Haven I Open House

**Fireworks at 7:45 p.m.**

Flu Shots (4-6 p.m.)

For more information call 724-352-8268

**www.ConcordiaLM.org** • Haven I - 112 Marwood Rd., Cabot, PA 16023

# Pittsburgh Zone LWML Fall Rally

Join us Saturday, October 11, 2025  
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church  
418 Maxwell Dr.  
Pittsburgh, PA 15236



**Cost: \$10**

**Call Carol Kagemann at 412-721-4515 by October 4<sup>th</sup> to register.**

**Check-in begins at 10:00 AM, meeting starts at 10:30**

**Join us for a presentation by Linda Bright about her recent trip to Ethiopia.**

**Ingathering:**



4KenyaKids exists to support comprehensive care to the abandoned, orphaned and needy children of Kenya through means of education, proper food, shelter, love and medical care. They recently experienced a horrific storm that damaged windows, walls etc. of the school



**Hazel Grove**  
BREWING

**KIDS CENTER!**

Balloon Artist  
Pumpkin Painting  
Pretzel Necklaces  
Temporary Tattoos  
Games and More!

First Trinity German Lutheran Presents

# Oktoberfest

**OCTOBER 11, 2025**

12:00 - 6:00 PM

531 N. Neville St, Pittsburgh, PA 15213



**FREE  
ADMISSION!**

LIVE MUSIC BY  
**Slim Forsythe**



"HEAVENLY FATHER, THANK YOU FOR BEING  
THE GOD OF THE SEASONS. AS WE  
EXPERIENCE A NEW TOUCH OF COOLNESS IN  
THE AIR AND ADJUST TO THE EARLIER  
SETTING OF THE SUN, WE ARE REMINDED  
THAT YOU CHANGE THE SEASONS OF OUR  
LIVES AS WELL. HELP US TO TRUST YOU IN  
OUR EMPTY SEASONS AS WELL AS OUR FULL  
SEASONS. HELP US TO EXPERIENCE YOUR  
LOVE AND GOODNESS IN THE SEASONS OF  
ABUNDANCE AS WELL AS THE SEASONS OF  
SCARCITY. AMEN."



PRAY FOR EVERYTHING





# Serving Christ in October 2025

Altar Guild  
September: Gloria Stern



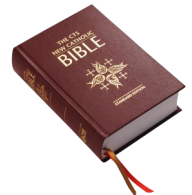
Date	Worship Assistant	Lector	Acolyte
Oct 5	John Crawford	Tammy Donaldson	Ryder Giovanetti
Oct 12	Cal Eggers	Gloria Stern	TBD
Oct 19	Richard Mueller	Annette Bowen	Ryder Giovanetti
Oct 26	Barry Schoenthal	Lois Frerking	TBD

Sunday bulletins, news, puzzles, and sermons are available on our website  
**[www.christlutheranfh.org](http://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](mailto: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.

