

Christ Lutheran Lamplighter

Christ Lutheran Church
400 Barclay Avenue
Forest Hills, Pennsylvania 15221

November 2025

Celebrating 92 years in Forest Hills

A Heart of Gratitude

"I refuse to put away my toys!" yelled little Jamie. "Why do I even need to? Explain it!" she insisted. The response was quick, calm, and clear. "Because it shows care for our home," said Jamie's mom.

Most of us have been in similar spots, either as the reluctant child or the guiding adult. "Because it shows care" – it gets to the heart of the matter.

Heading into this season of thankfulness, let's ponder a hurdle in offering thanks. We often think our service to God flows purely from gratitude for His mercy and rescue. It's a nice idea. Yet, what about moments when thanks feels distant? When we undervalue His provisions or struggle to sense appreciation? Are we off the hook for faithful living, compassion, or devotion? No way.

Believers embrace God's ways and live out His truths as a joyful reply to the gospel of forgiveness in Jesus, not just when emotions surge with thanks. We align with Him as our loving Guide – because His forgiving grace transforms us. Like children who honor their parents out of affection, we follow our heavenly Parent with open hearts. In baptism, we committed to turning from darkness without tying it to fleeting feelings of thanks. During our faith declaration, we promised to shape our lives by His wisdom, not conditionally on our mood. But don't we slip into that pattern at times?

Our appreciation can ebb and flow. Praise God, His loyalty remains constant. Despite our stumbles, He embraces us in Christ, who lovingly offered Himself on the cross at Calvary to forgive our sins. Joined to Jesus through baptism, we're now His cherished family, freed and redeemed. How we treasure this profound forgiveness! So, as His own, we eagerly follow His path. Why? In willing response to His boundless grace in Jesus!

In Thankfulness to Christ,

Pastor Ron Bright

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

Missionary: 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



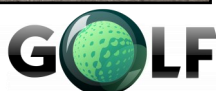
Financial Snapshot from Jul 1 2025 to September 30 2025	Actual	Budgeted
Offerings and other income	\$60,401	\$60,693
Missions	\$0	\$0
Staff	\$15,752	\$19,705
Operations	\$32,018	\$37,511
Total expenses	\$47,770	\$57,216
Net Gain/ Loss	\$12,631	\$3,477

NEWS FROM THE FLOCK

September Golf Outing was a huge success! Thanks Susan Robatzen for organizing!



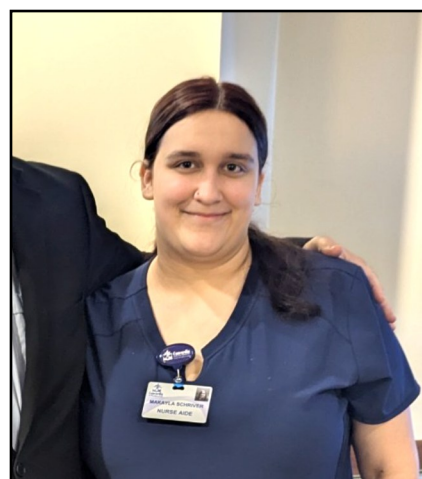
Pastor Bright and Linda visited our member, June Kolb, in Grantsville, MD. They brought her an apple dumpling from Zion Lutheran Church in Accident, MD, where her father was a pastor for over 30 years.



Ralph Viggiano holding a trophy for the longest putt by 70 feet



The highest scoring team of the outing



Makayla Schriver was promoted to medical technician at Concordia Weatherwood in Greensburg. Congratulations!

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.



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.

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.



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.



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.

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.



2025–2027 Mission Grant #1
Regional Disaster Response LERT Shower Trailers
LCMS Office of National Mission, Disaster Response Ministry, U.S.
\$81,500

Lutheran Early Response Teams (LERT) serve thousands of individuals and families who are suffering from loss in the wake of disasters like hurricanes, floods, earthquakes, fires, and tornadoes. When deployed, LERT teams traditionally use congregations in the disaster areas as their base camps. The host congregations provide a place for the LERT teams to sleep, eat, rest, recover, and receive spiritual care during their time of service.

Host congregations are incredible to work with as the teams help them rebuild their communities and share the life-changing message of the Gospel.

One challenge for team members has been the lack of showers and laundry facilities at a host church. LERT members have showered at national gym chains, in members' homes, in personal campers, or even under cold garden hoses. This grant will fund half the cost of two combination bathroom/shower/laundry trailers to be used during disaster response work.



Important Dates in November 2025

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

Nov 2—All Saints Sunday
Nov 2—Daylight Saving Time Ends
Nov 3—Vocal Choir Rehearsal 7pm
Nov 4—Election Day
Nov 5—Education Meeting 4:30
Nov 5—Handbell Choir Rehearsal 7pm
Nov 10—Vocal Choir Rehearsal 7pm
Nov 11—Veterans Day
Nov 12—Handbell Choir Rehearsal 7pm
Nov 15—Lamplighter Deadline
Nov 17—Vocal Choir Rehearsal 7pm
Nov 18—Council Meeting 7pm
Nov 19—Handbell Choir Rehearsal 7pm
Nov 20—Finance Meeting 4pm
Nov 24—Vocal Choir Rehearsal 7pm
Nov 26—Thanksgiving Service 7pm
Nov 27—Thanksgiving Day
Nov 27-Nov 28—Office Closed
Nov 29—Church Decorating 9:30am



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 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.

**November Prayer Petition**

O give thanks unto the LORD; for he is good:
because his mercy endureth for ever.
Psalm 118:1

Celebrating in November 2025

Anniversaries

5-Nov Robert and Bette Hamill



Birthdays

5-Nov David Lisovich

8-Nov Hunter Donikowski

9-Nov Barbara Schoenthal

10-Nov Risielyn Ackerman

10-Nov Betty Cottom

12-Nov Pat Lehnhardt

15-Nov Kathleen Hoblak

17-Nov Carol Logsdon

22-Nov Lee Hricko





Fall
**CRAFT &
VENDOR
SHOW**

22 NOVEMBER 2025
10 AM - 2 PM

ZION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
237 37th Street
Pgh, PA 15201

SUPPORTS EVANGELISM IN LAWRENCEVILLE





Serving Christ in November 2025

Altar Guild
November: Meghan Elaschat



Date	Worship Assistant	Lector	Acolyte
2-Nov	John Crawford	Tammy Donaldson	Madeline Stoner
9-Nov	Timothy Bright	Annette Bowen	Nate Patsko
16-Nov	Richard Mueller	Zak D'Alessandro	Julia Stoner
23-Nov	Cal Eggers	Lois Frerking	Ryder Giovanetti
26-Nov	Barry Schoenthal	Annette Bowen	-
30-Nov	John Crawford	Zak D'Alessandro	TBD

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

Services are also streamed on our Facebook page
ChristLutheranChurchFH.

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.

As always, if you have any news that you are willing to share, please email or give it to **Kathy Sourbeer**, ksourbeer@aol.com or send it directly to **Jana Savelkova** at officeassist@christlutheranfh.org. Deadline is the 15th of the month.



Please remember to **update your address and/or email address if you move**. If you have an email address you can share with us, it makes it easier to communicate with members.



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.

