

Christ Lutheran Lamplighter



Christ Lutheran Church
400 Barclay Avenue
Forest Hills, Pennsylvania 15221

May 2026

Contact Information

Phone: 412-271-7173

Web: www.christlutheranfh.org

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



Staff

Pastor: Rev. Ronald Bright
pastor@christlutheranfh.org

Missionary: Rev. Vincent Mroz
pghdeafoutreach@gmail.com

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

Celebrating 93 years in Forest Hills

Confirmed and Called

As we continue to rejoice in the resurrection of our Lord, the month of May brings both celebration and calling. On May 3, we gave thanks for the confirmation of Julia Stoner, who publicly confessed the faith into which she was baptized. Her confirmation is not a finish line, but a beginning—a life shaped by the Word of God, lived in trust, and sustained by His promises.

This calling is not hers alone. Pentecost reminds us that the Holy Spirit is given to the whole Church. Every Christian is called into a life marked by the justice, truth, and mercy of God—receiving these gifts daily in Christ, and living them out in love toward others. This is the Spirit's work among us: forming hearts, guiding lives, and bearing fruit in our vocations.

As we continue the joy of Easter and prepare for Pentecost, you are invited to gather with fellow believers at a city-wide Ascension Day service at Ascension Lutheran Church in McCandless on May 14, 2026, at 7:00 pm. Together we will celebrate Christ's reign and look ahead to the Spirit's work among us.

In Christ, we live, receive, and give.

Pastor Ron Bright



| Financial Snapshot from July 1 2025 to March 30, 2026 | Actual | Budgeted |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|
| Offerings and other income | \$175,914 | \$185,069 |
| Missions | \$3,500 | \$3,600 |
| Staff | \$48,392 | \$59,115 |
| Operations | \$85,005 | \$96,000 |
| Total expenses | \$136,897 | \$158,715 |
| Net Gain/Loss | \$39,017 | \$26,354 |

NEWS FROM THE FLOCK



We celebrated 93 years of serving Christ on Sunday, April 19, 2026. Happy birthday, Christ Lutheran!



Elmo paid us a visit during our annual Family Easter Event!



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.

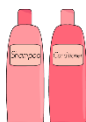


ALTAR GUILD – Contact Ruth Hirko about serving on the altar committee. They set up for Holy Communion, change altar paraments, launder the communion napkins, etc. New members are needed.

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.



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.



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 Breight 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 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 2026 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.



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.



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.

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.



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 remains \$40. Make checks payable to WSG and put check in locked mailbox by the far office door.



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 #6
Christ-Centered Hope for Cancer Patients
Phil's Friends, U.S. — \$100,000

About This Mission Grant

The core of Phil's Friends mission is based on Matthew 25:36, I was sick and you visited me. In the past 18 years, Phil's Friends has sent nearly 60,000 care packages and more than one million Cards of Hope. This ministry supports anyone with cancer regardless of age, gender, ethnicity, or income level.

It costs \$100 for one year to support a cancer patient. This total includes the care package, 12 Cards of Hope, and postage. The care packages are hand-decorated, and the contents are customized according to the age and gender of the recipient. They are filled with simple, practical comfort items that cancer patients can use during their treatments. Phil's Friends is 100% donor supported.

This grant will purchase supplies for care packages and Cards of Hope and will pay for shipping and postage to support 1,000 cancer patients for one year.



Cleaning Out Your Closets?

We need your shoes!

Redeemer Lutheran School



Location

Any RLS Campus



Dates

Now through May 29



Contact

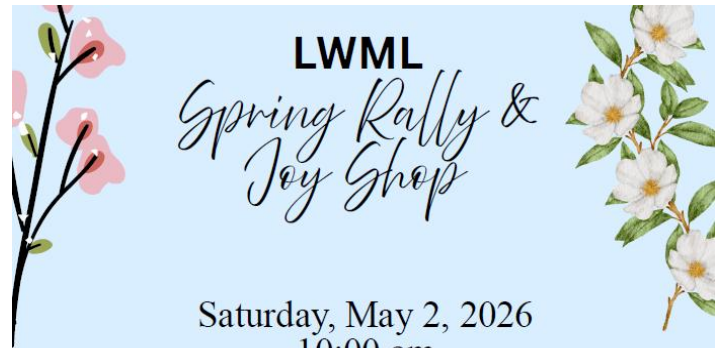
412-793-5884
or
school@redeemer-oakmont.org

Help us raise funds just by donating gently worn, used and new shoes! Be sure to ask, friends, family, neighbors and co-workers to donate too!

Collected shoes not only help support us, but they will be reused and given a second life by those in need through #microenterprise. It's a WIN-WIN!



052022F



LWML
*Spring Rally &
 Joy Shops*

Saturday, May 2, 2026
 10:00 am
 St. Luke Lutheran
 Butler Campus
 241 Freeport Road
 Butler, PA 16002

*Bible Study
 by Deaconess Heather Wathall*



Make Crosses

Ingathering for New Beginnings
 Diapers size 5-6
 Pull ups all sizes
 wipes
 A&D ointment
 nail clippers, brushes & combs

\$10 Registration Fee

Call Diane Olmstead at 724-991-2344 to register
 by April 26, 2026

Important Dates in May 2026

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

May 3 – Confirmation Sunday
May 4 – Vocal Choir Rehearsal 7pm
May 10 – Mother’s Day
May 11 – Vocal Choir Rehearsal 7pm
May 13 – Education Meeting 4:30pm
May 15 – Lamplighter Deadline
May 18 – Vocal Choir Rehearsal 7pm
May 19 – Council Meeting 7pm
May 21 – Finance Meeting 6pm
May 24 - Pentecost
May 25 – Memorial Day
May 25 – Vocal Choir Rehearsal 7pm
May 27 – Elders Meeting 4pm
May 28 – Outreach Meeting 4pm
May 31 – Trinity Sunday

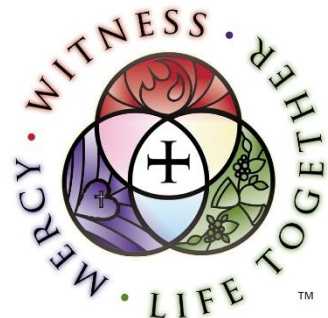


Full Calendar:



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

Bob Lindke

2190 Ipnar Road
Irwin, PA 15642

Katherine Mastrocola

200 Union Avenue
North Versailles, PA 15137

Robert & Bette Hamill, Jr.

1413 Maple Ave.
Turtle Creek, PA 15145

Carol Logsdon

Point Pleasant Asstd.Living, Rm 331
120 Mossid Blvd.
North Versailles, PA 15137

Ann Tubbs

41 Central Avenue
N. Versailles, PA 15137-1101

Audrey Karpinsky

203 Stockton Ridge
Cranberry, PA 16066-2261

Russell Long

606 Filmore Ave.
Pittsburgh PA 15221
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

Audrey Marvenko

846 Joan Drive
North Versailles PA 15137

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



May Prayer Petition

Surely your goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever. (Psalm 23:6)

Celebrating in May 2026

Anniversaries

- 5/1 Lee & Wayne Bognar
- 5/17 Mike & Suzanna Lydon-George
- 5/19 Melvin & Majorie Itzel
- 5/31 Kevin & Katherine Hanley

Birthdays

- 5/5 Glenn Filler
- 5/5 James Wise
- 5/9 Frank Elaschat
- 5/12 Sirak Zerai
- 5/18 Kyle Schoenthal
- 5/22 Linda Breight
- 5/22 Karen Dadey
- 5/23 Alma Eggers
- 5/23 Maisy Hanley
- 5/25 Gloria Stern
- 5/26 Kyle O'Connor
- 5/30 Megan Elaschat
- 5/30 Jim Law



ASCENSION DAY



CELEBRATE WITH YOUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN CHRIST

Joint Parish Worship Service

May 14

7 p.m.

Ascension Lutheran Church

8225 Peebles Road

Pittsburgh 15237

Offerings will support the Pittsburgh Area Lutheran Ministries Small Mission Grant Fund.



Serving Christ in May 2026

Altar Guild
May: Kelly Giovanetti



| Date | Worship Assistant | Lector | Acolyte |
|--------|-------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| 3-May | John Crawford | Zak D'Alessandro | Madeline Stoner |
| 10-May | Barry Schoenthal | Gloria Stern | Nate Patsko |
| 17-May | Rich Mueller | Annette Bowen | Julia Stoner |
| 24-May | John Crawford | Zak D'Alessandro | Nate Patsko |
| 31-May | Rich Mueller | Annette Bowen | TBD |

UPDATE: WE DO NO LONGER COLLECT PILL BOTTLES. THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING LIONS IN THE PAST.




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



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.



As always, if you have any news 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 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. If you are interested in serving your church as a lector or an acolyte, please contact the office.