

Christ Lutheran Lamplighter



Christ Lutheran Church
400 Barclay Avenue
Forest Hills, Pennsylvania 15221

October 2026

Contact Information

Phone: 412-271-7173

Web: www.christlutheranfh.org

Facebook: 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, 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, Zakary D'Alessandro

Endowment Committee: Cal Eggers, Glenn Filler, Kathy Sourbeer

Celebrating 93 years in Forest Hills

Reformation:

Trusting the Word That Outlasts Every Prediction

Recent tech headlines are hard to ignore. Prominent voices in artificial intelligence warn that within a decade, machines may surpass human control altogether, reshaping or even ending human life as we know it. Whether or not these forecasts prove accurate, they reveal something true about the human heart: we are anxious about forces bigger than ourselves, and we are desperate for something solid to stand on.

Five hundred years ago, Martin Luther faced his own version of upheaval. The church he loved had drifted from the clear Word of God, and Christians were left uncertain where true comfort could be found. Luther's answer was not a new invention, a clever strategy, or to just slow things down. It was a return to Scripture, the conviction that God's Word alone is sufficient, trustworthy, and alive.

That conviction still holds. No algorithm, no artificial intelligence, no human innovation operates outside the permission and providence of the Lord. Colossians 1:17 reminds us that in Christ, all things hold together. The same God who spoke creation into being through His Word continues to hold the future in His hands, whatever headlines may say.

This Reformation season, come rest in that unshakable Word. Join us for our Reformation Communion Service on Sunday, October 25th at 10:00 a.m., as we give thanks for the gospel recovered and proclaimed anew. Stay afterward for cake and fellowship as we celebrate together the truth that has never needed an update: Christ is Lord, now and always.

In the Word of Christ,

Pastor Ron Bright

Financial Snapshot from July 1 2026 to August 31, 2026	Actual	Budgeted
Offerings and other income	\$32,051	\$36,711
Missions	-	-
Staff	\$11,501	\$12,116
Operations	\$20,248	\$25,075
Total expenses	\$31,749	\$37,191
Net Gain/Loss	\$302	-\$480

NEWS FROM THE FLOCK



Pittsburgh Zoo brought a live animal show to our preschool kids.



Congratulation to Nate Patsko who was confirmed on September 13th!

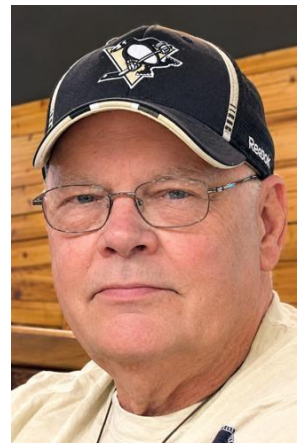
Russell T. Long Obituary

Russell T. Long, of Forest Hills, age 77, passed away peacefully on Thursday, September 9, 2026.

Russ was the beloved husband of Judith (Full) Long for 47 years. He was the devoted father of Jennifer (Luke) Matthews of Wilkins Twp and Jonathan Long of Irwin. Russ was also the proud and cherished grandfather of Mackenna and Colton Matthews and Maggie Long.

Russ was a 1967 graduate of Churchill Area High School. After completing his education, he forged a career as a machinist, a profession that suited his strong work ethic. A committed member of his community, Russ was a lifetime member and volunteer with the Forest Hills Fire Department.

In his leisure time, Russ delighted in fishing the waters of Lake Erie. The time he spent there offered him peace and enjoyment. Above all else, Russ treasured time spent with his grandchildren. His most favorite time was any time spent with them, and those moments brought him immense happiness. He loved them and their laughter and affection.



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.



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 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 remains \$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 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.

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 #10

Healing Your Heart — Faith-based Child Counseling Lutheran Counseling and Family Services of Wisconsin, U.S.—\$100,000

About This Mission Grant

Protecting and nourishing the mental health and well-being of children is the mission of Lutheran Counseling and Family Services of Wisconsin (LCFS). They protect a child's integrity, self-worth, spiritual well-being, and mental health through professional compassionate Christian counseling.

The outpatient child therapy clinic was expanded in August 2023 and the number of children served by LCFS grew beyond capacity in six months. The clinic needs to expand its services again to meet the demands and needs of countless children in the greater Milwaukee community.

As children get better and stronger, the lives of parents, siblings, and other family members often improve. LCFS also deploys trained therapists to respond to community crises and offer Christ's healing.

This grant will increase the number of therapists working in the clinic from five to seven, purchase therapeutic toys, and develop promotional materials to present to LCMS churches and groups.

Oktoberfest 2026

Saturday, October 3, 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 1 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

Menu

Dinners - \$12.00

Includes two sides, dessert and beverage

- Bavarian Style Pork Roast Dinner
Roasted pork with pan gravy
- Kielbasa and Sauerkraut Platter
Home-cooked kielbasa braised in sauerkraut served on a hoagie roll
- Bratwurst Platter
Two grilled bratwurst (or hot dogs) served with spicy mustard
- Sauerbraten Dinner
German-style pot roast

À La Carte Items

Main entrées - \$6.00

- Kielbasa
- Roasted pork
- Sauerbraten
- Bratwurst
- ¼ lb. Hot Dogs (2)

Sides - \$2.00

- German Potato Salad
- Red Cabbage
- Sauerkraut
- Spaetzle (German Pasta)
- Potato Pancakes

Quick tent

- Bavarian Pretzel - \$4.00
- Chicken Tenders - \$4.00
- ¼ lb. Hot Dog - \$4.00
- Black Forest Ham Pretzel Melt - \$4.00
- Beverages - \$2.00

Beer

Samuel Adams Oktoberfest

- Signature Mug - \$10.00 (*limit 1 refill*)
- Glass - \$3.00

Desserts - \$2.00

- Black Forest Cake
- Pumpkin Pie

Beverages - \$2.00

- Soda, Water, Coffee, Iced Tea
- Apple Cider (hot or cold)



Root Beer

1919 Root Beer

- Signature Mug - \$5.00
- Glass - \$2.00

Important Dates in October 2026

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

Oct 3 – Oktoberfest in Cabot
Oct 5 – Vocal Choir Rehearsal 7pm
Oct 8 – Endowment Meeting 9am
Oct 10 – LWML Zone
Oct 12 – Columbus Day
Oct 12 – Vocal Choir Rehearsal 7pm
Oct 14 – Elders Meeting 4pm
Oct 14 – Education Meeting 4:30pm
Oct 15 – Lamplighter Deadline
Oct 19 – Vocal Choir Rehearsal 7pm
Oct 22 – Finance Meeting 4pm
Oct 25 – Reformation Sunday – Cake after Divine Service
Oct 26 – Vocal Choir Rehearsal 7pm
Oct 29 – Outreach Meeting 4pm
Oct 31 – Halloween



Full Calendar:



Church and Bible Class Times

Sunday
10 am Divine Service
Adult Bible Studies
8:45am-9:45am



Addresses for our Shut-Ins

Catherine Ertman

3000 Locust Ave. Apt 319
Braddock Hills, PA 15221

Lynn Fisher

Harmar Village
715 Freeport Rd
Cheswick, PA 15024

Robert & Bette Hamill, Jr.

1413 Maple Ave.
Turtle Creek, PA 15145

June Kolb

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

Bob Lindke

2190 Ipnar Road
Irwin, PA 15642

Carol Logsdon

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

Audrey Marvenko

846 Joan Drive
North Versailles PA 15137

Katherine Mastrocola

200 Union Avenue
North Versailles, PA 15137

Ann Tubbs

41 Central Avenue
N. Versailles, PA 15137-1101

Sandra Uram

1516 Brinton Rd
Pittsburgh, PA 15221

David Wible

450 Sherrick Dr
North Huntingdon PA 15642

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 earth is the Lord's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it.
Psalm 24:1

Celebrating in October 2026

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 Bogнар
15-Oct	Natalie Pollitt
18-Oct	Kelly Giovanetti
18-Oct	David Uram
29-Oct	Linda Hite
30-Oct	Stephanie Caton



400 Barclay Avenue . Pittsburgh 15221

Christ, Forest Hills

LWML FALL RALLY

"MINISTRY TO THE ARMED FORCES"

Presented by Rev. Dr. Ed Grimenstein, Pastor, Zion, Bridgeville
Former Army Chaplain for 7 years

OCTOBER

10

Saturday

10 AM Registration

10:30 – Program followed by Business Meeting and Lunch
Ingathering – Monies for Operation Barnabas

Registration Fee \$10

Please call Linda Bright at 412/720-0518 to register by October 3.



Serving Christ in October 2026

Altar Guild
October: Gloria Stern



Date	Worship Assistant	Lector	Acolyte
4-Oct	Rich Mueller	Annette Bowen	Ryder Giovanetti
11-Oct	Barry Schoenthal	Tammy Donaldson	Nate Patsko
18-Oct	Lee Caton	Gloria Stern	TBD
25-Oct	Zak D'Alessandro	Annette Bowen	TBD

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 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.

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. **NEWS**

How to Stay Connected to Christ Lutheran

Christ Lutheran has help for those who are institutionalized or staying at home. Sunday services are available on our Facebook page, ChristLutheranChurchFH. You can view the service live on Sunday mornings at 10am or watch a recording of the service later at your convenience. Bulletins, sermons, worship service booklets, and puzzles are mailed each week. If you would like to receive this weekly mailing please call the church office. All of these resources are also available on our church website, www.christlutheranfh.org, under the news section. Home communion is also available to all members after each communion service. Ask someone from church to bring it to you or call the church office. If you would like a visit from Pastor Bright, please also call the church office at 412-271-7173.