



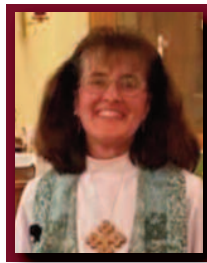
Christ Lutheran Church
115 Church St.
Duncannon, PA 17020
717.834.3140
www.clcduncannon.org

Community Aid # - 10119



May 2025

The Herald



Pastor's Reflection

Jesus Christ is Risen – he is risen indeed – Alleluia! We are an Easter people. We are a resurrection people. This is the good news: Jesus Christ was crucified, died, and was raised from the dead for our salvation, and it is not something that we can earn, but it is a gift of ultimate grace – freely given because God so loved the world that God would not leave us to die in our sins. The cross of Good Friday is transformed into the empty tomb of Easter morning. The sins that have held us bound are transformed into joy and freedom that are reflected in lives of love and service. The sacrifice of the beloved Son is transformed into lives of sacrifice by the ones who will follow him – those who wish to claim the identity of a Christian – a Christ-follower.

In the last week of his earthly life, Jesus reveals to us what a follower of his will look like. On the night in which he was betrayed, Jesus gave final teachings in order to prepare his followers to continue his work when he is gone. We are recipients of this teaching that has been passed through the ages by theologians, pastors, family, friends, and neighbors who bear witness to Christ's teaching. Jesus gave his followers a new commandment, "that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." This is not simple love. This is not merely love for one's friends and family. The love that Jesus speaks

of is a love that will kneel down in humble submission and service to one another, washing the feet of another – friend or enemy, neighbor or stranger. There are no limits. There are no boundaries. That night of profound darkness, Jesus knelt before Judas Iscariot and washed his feet, knowing that Judas was going to betray him; knowing that Judas would walk away from his calling; knowing that Judas would reject him. Jesus washed his feet anyway. That is Christ-like love. That is the love that we are called to, and it is hard, and it has the power to change the world.

On that final night together, Jesus offers himself – this is my body given for you, this is my blood, shed for you. Do this in remembrance of me. And we do, each week as we gather for worship, we join together in humble submission with grateful hearts. In the sacrament of Holy Communion, we receive the promise of Christ with trust and faith that he is present with us in the meal that is freely shared among those searching for hope and healing. Jesus strengthens us again and again by his own body and blood for the work of the kingdom, for the living of our everyday lives. This is just one of the gifts we receive when we come to worship each week.

We are invited to the Christian life of love and sacrifice. We open the doors to the church on Sunday
continued on next page

President's Paragraph

Since we just celebrated Easter, let me ask you a question. Have you ever wondered why Easter is not the same date every year? Its not a simple explanation.

The Council of Nicaea established the following formula in 325 A.D. - "Easter will fall on the first Sunday after the Full Moon date that occurs on or after March 21. If the Full Moon is on a Sunday, Easter is celebrated on the following Sunday." This date is tied to the Paschal Full Moon, which is the first Sunday following the first Full Moon after the spring equinox. Simple right!

Now I am going to tell you something that is not as complex, and I will get right to the point! The church furnace needs to be replaced. The present furnace has served us well but it is beyond the possibility of repairing it. That is the easy

part. Now the hard part. Council has been wrestling with how we are going to pay for a new furnace. We have put bids out to local vendors for estimates on a replacement. The bids we got back were roughly between \$22,000 - \$30,000. We have some funds ear marked for this project but not nearly enough. We have two options. We can get a bank loan and pay high interest or we can have a furnace fund drive. Council has elected to go with the fund drive and save on the interest.

We will be placing labeled envelopes in the pews for this project. I will be calling a special congregational meeting soon to vote on this project. This will give everyone an opportunity to voice their thoughts and opinions. We must replace the furnace, that is a given and we hope our congregation will keep us from borrowing the balance

needed to pay for it.

I am sure you are aware of the constant battle we face with our budget.

Having said that, we

hope the

furnace will not detract from our regular

giving. I know it sounds like we are always talking about money, and I for one hate it. But the sad truth is it takes money to keep our church doors open.

Setting the date for Easter does not look so hard now, does it?

See you Sunday!

Bill



*Bill Brookhart
Council President*

Pastor's Reflection

continued from previous page
morning to offer believers a chance to come to a place, together, to give thanks to God for all that God has done for us. We come to offer ourselves before God. We come to proclaim and sing and share the abounding love of God. We come to give back and to pray for those in need. We come to worship to equip ourselves for the week ahead – to open our eyes and hearts to the needs of others, to heal those broken places in ourselves, to offer our cares and worries to the one who hears them while being

surrounded by a community of hands and hearts who can strengthen us and support us. And here, among God's people, we encounter Christ in word and water and wine.

Worship is a gift for us and for the world. Worship helps to remind us to whom we belong when the world tries so hard to convince us that we are slaves to its ways. Worship reminds us that we are not alone and that God calls us to a life beyond this world's meaningless battles of competition and dominance. In worship, we encounter peace and gentleness, beauty

through song, strength of purpose to open our eyes to the life of discipleship outside of the walls of worship. Each week, we hear this invitation to communion:

So come to this table, you who have much faith and you who would like to have more; you who have been here often and you who have not been for a while; you who have tried to follow Jesus, and you who are wandering still. Come. It is Christ who invites us to meet him here.

This invitation is for you! Amen.

It's Time to Welcome the AT Hikers to CLC

The Wednesday evening free spaghetti dinners for the Appalachian Trail hikers will begin on May 14. The meal will be served from 5:00 - 7:00 pm. They will be held each consecutive Wednesday through July 16.

We will once again offer spaghetti and meatballs, salad, garlic bread and dessert. As in the past, the congregation will be asked to sign up to donate salad ingredients and desserts each week. There are other ways to help as well.

Volunteers are needed to arrive at the church prior to 5:00 for food prep and set up. Everyone is welcome. The support of the congregation is vital to this ministry.

Hikers from all over the world have been our guests over the years. We sometimes host a canine hiker and we even had a kitty hiker one year. There are so many interesting stories to be heard. Last year one young man named Ryan lingered for awhile to chat. He told us he was

hiking to honor his brother who had died. He was carrying his ashes to spread on the trail and he promised to let us know when he reached Mt. Katahdin, which is the end of the AT trail in Maine. He kept his word and even sent us a

picture (which was in the last newsletter), and is also posted on the bulletin board in the hallway of the Education wing.

CLC's hiker ministry is truly a blessing, not only to the hungry, tired hikers, but to each person who is participating in any way to make the

Wednesday evening meals happen.
Please join us if you can.



Love by the Load

by Sue Landis

I have volunteered to help with Loads of Love ministry supported by the Duncannon Council of Churches, and, of course, CLC supports it too.

Loads of Love launched in October 2019. It has served more than 100 families in the Duncannon area and provided in excess of \$10,000 in dignity and respect via clean clothes.

The free laundry loads are offered the first Tuesday and third Thursday of every month. There are people from other Duncannon churches who help with this service as well.

Since it is a needed service, it is now being offered on five Mondays beginning April 28. I have volunteered to work these Monday nights. Pastor Jenn is also helping.

Word is getting around about this need and the Halifax area has now begun offering it.

They are currently working with Newport to start a similar service. This is a great experience. The people needing the service are very appreciative and thankful.



The Money In Your Pocket program, created by the United Way, was designed to help low-to-moderate income working families with tax preparation.

This has been an ongoing yearly service provided throughout several counties.

This year, Sue Masser volunteered her time to help the Perry County Literacy Council meet the needs of more than 775 Perry County residents.

Director Christie Caswell said, "This group of volunteers is beyond amazing, and the dedication and effort invested with each family is significant and meaningful - to the family AND to the volunteers."

Thank you, Sue, for the important role you played in making us Perry County Proud. Your dedication to the less fortunate is much appreciated and will certainly be remembered!

Holy Week 2025

As a faith community, we were blessed to worship, wait, and proclaim Christ arisen throughout the Holy Week which began on Palm Sunday with shouts of Hosanna and welcome to the king, one riding on a humble donkey. On Wednesday, we gathered for Dinner Church to share a simple meal together and hear the reading of the Passion as we prepared to enter the Great Three Days. Together with about 35 of our neighbors and friends, we sang, prepared blessing bags, and gifts for our Visitation community.

On Maundy Thursday, we gathered to hear the final teachings of Jesus including the great commandment that we are to love one another as he has loved us. This is the mark of Christ's disciples, and this love is the

Hiker Meal Fundraiser

On Saturday, April 26, CLC hosted the fourth annual Spaghetti Dinner fundraiser, raising funds to support our Hiker Meal ministry. We had about 65 people from the congregation and the local community join us for our dinner, consisting of Spaghetti, Meatballs, Garlic Bread, Salad, and Dessert.

This is the same meal that we serve to our AT Hiker guests throughout the summer. As always, the food was wonderful, the company was great, and we were blessed with many helpers and fabulous dessert donations!

Donations to support our Hiker Fund can be made through our website. Visit us at www.clcduncannon.org and just select the GIVE NOW button. Then click on the Hiker Meal option. This is a ministry that needs the support

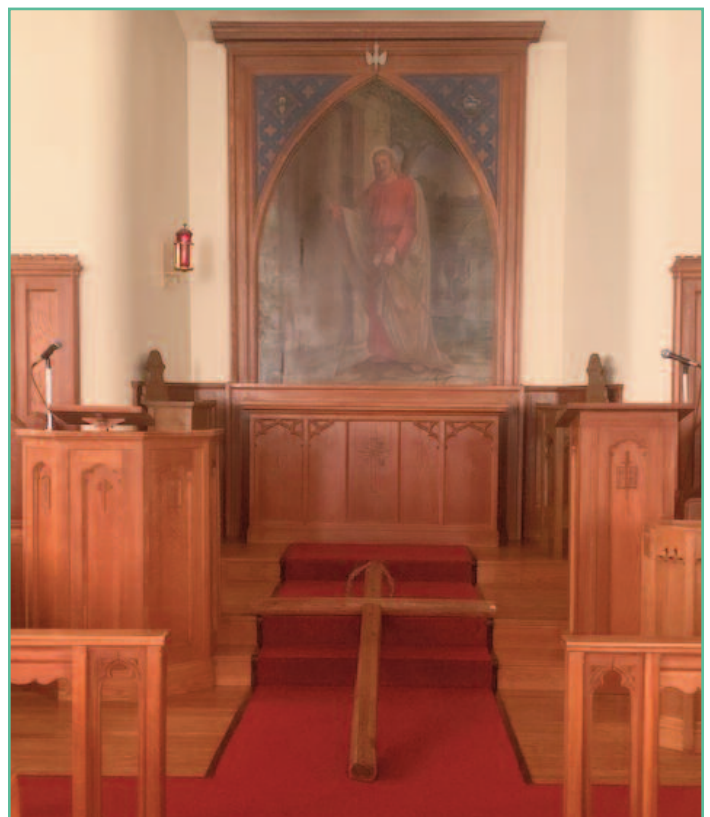
of the whole congregation to enable us to provide such wonderful hospitality to hikers from around the world!



kind of love that washes the feet of another – friend, stranger, sibling, or enemy. We witnessed the profound stripping of the altar, laying bare the reality of Jesus's betrayal and arrest by the Roman authorities.

On Good Friday, we grieve and lament for the sins of this world as Jesus is nailed to the cross and dies a traitor's death upon a Roman cross as only a few women and the beloved disciple remain as witnesses. And, as Jesus is buried in a borrowed tomb, we grieve the loss and the sins of this world. Jesus enters into death for the sake of the world – for the salvation of each and every one.

As Easter morning dawns and the women find the empty tomb. The great shouts of joy rang out - Jesus Christ is Risen – He is Risen, Indeed – Alleluia! - at our Sunrise Service and Traditional Worship. Thanks be to God, that God so loved the world that the beloved Son was sent to redeem and save! We are witnesses to this good news!




Fundraising Opportunities

Clip here

F A B U L O U S

Fund-raiser Tuesdays

 Christ Lutheran Church
Organization

June 10, 2015
Date

Thank you!

TWO LOCATIONS | Route 22, McVeytown Port Royal Exit, Swamp Road
717-899-7751 717-436-5386

Clip here

Faith Night Fundraiser at the Senators Game

June 20 at FNB Field on City Island

First pitch at 7:00 pm

Ticket cost is \$19 per person

Order your tickets online at <https://www.gofevo.com/event/Christlutheran7>



Get ready for a night of high-energy baseball, community spirit, and awe-inspiring fireworks as Christ Lutheran Church invites you to our special ****Faith Night Fundraiser****! Watch the Harrisburg Senators take on the Binghamton Rumble Ponies in a thrilling showdown that promises to keep you on the edge of your seat!

Hershey Park Volunteer Fundraiser

Christ Lutheran Church is signed up to work at Hershey Park as part of their volunteer program. For every hour you volunteer to work, our church will receive \$8.00/hour for each person who works.

Most shifts are 4-6 hours long. Positions include: usher, ride operator, concerts, and concessions. The ride shifts require a five hour training class which the church will get paid for. You **MUST** take this course to be certified to work rides at the park. Also the food shifts require you to listen to a 30-40 minute video and take a small

quiz which is very easy. This will allow you to work at any food stand in the park or Giant Center.

Along with the church getting paid when you work a shift, you will receive a **FREE** Hershey Park ticket to use this season. Tickets are handed out at the end of the shift. You need to check in and out at specific locations.

You do not need to be a church member to work at the park. If you know someone who wants free tickets and is willing to work for our church let us know.

To become a volunteer just email Susan Masser at campin96@gmail.com and she will send the available shifts to you. She will also forward the manual for working that gives you the required clothing to wear for all jobs. Hershey Park is very strict on the uniform and look of their employees and volunteers.

Thank you for considering to volunteer to help our church continue to do God's Work!!



News From the Fundraising Committee

We continue to do well with our fundraising efforts, and it is all thanks to each and everyone of you!!!

The church earned \$347 from the recent sub sale, and \$409 was made at the ham and bean dinner,

We had another successful Pasta Extravaganza, garnering \$590. Plus, we can't forget how much you love Whoopie Pies - \$412 worth!

Karns gift cards continue to sell and provide helpful income. Our most recent sales earned \$100.

Don't miss out on our upcoming fundraising events:

June 10 - Harshbarger's Fundraiser where you can indulge in your favorite dessert after a delicious meal. See coupon on previous page.

June 20 - Faith Night at the Harrisburg Senators Game. See details and ticket link on previous page.

In July we will either be having a Marianna's sub and pizza sale, or we may try a new fundraiser from Harshberger's that includes subs, salads, pizzas, desserts, and more.

We are also continually selling Karns gift cards in \$25, \$50, 100 increments (if interested in a different amount please let

Becky Yohe know) You buy the gift cards from Becky at face value, and the church receives 5% of the sales. So if you shop there anyway it is a win win for all!

We continue to sell different crocheted items that are showcased in an album on the church's facebook page. Items range from blankets to little plushies, as well as other items. If you need a gift for a birthday, baby shower, wedding, or anything else, and would like to know what all we have please see Becky Yohe or Terry Kuhn.

As always we just want to continue to say thank you for all of your support, and for helping to continue to make these fundraising efforts possible and with great outcomes!!

Stay tuned in church for more information.



the coming of the Holy Spirit, this might also explain why so many were gathered in Jerusalem at the time. The Jewish festival celebrates the giving of the law (the Ten Commandments) to Moses at Mt. Sinai. In Christian churches, we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit who remains with us to this very day!

Come and celebrate with us on June 8 (wear your red!).

Pentecost

2 When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. ²And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. ³Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. ⁴All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit

gave them ability. (Acts 2:1-4)

As Luke writes in the book of Acts, Jesus's promise of the coming of the Holy Spirit is fulfilled on the day of Pentecost (generally translated from the Greek word fiftieth). We celebrate this day in the church with a festival Sunday with the church in all of its beautiful red splendor as a reminder of the fire of the Holy Spirit. It comes 50 days after Easter. This is not a "new" Christian holiday but rather is connected to the ancient Jewish festival of Shavuot which was celebrated 50 days after Passover and was another of the important pilgrimage festivals in which Jews from near and far would travel to Jerusalem to celebrate. In addition to Jesus's command that they remain in Jerusalem until



CHURCH COUNCIL UPDATE

As you are aware, our church needs a new furnace before the start of the next winter season. With that said, Council has been diligently researching options and requesting bids. The task force heading this project consists of Sue Landis, Joe Kistler and Clyde Tota.

Sue Landis has provided the following update regarding progress the task force has made:

Back in February, the church put out a request-for-proposal from ten different heating and air conditioning businesses for replacing our old furnace and putting in a new furnace and hot water heater. Businesses had until April 30 to respond. As of publication of this newsletter, we have received only two bids. The Council will study these bids and any new ones we may receive to determine who will receive the contract at its May 8 meeting. The cost for this is quite significant and Council is asking for help from the congregation. Donation envelopes have been placed in the pews. If you are able, please prayerfully consider giving and place the envelope in the offering plate with your normal weekly

giving.

Council is also reporting that outside cameras have been installed as a deterrent to potential vandalism and loitering.

Discussions are continuing regarding the use of the donation received from St. Mathias upon their closing. As is tradition when funds like this are received, Council voted to donate 10% to charitable organizations. Lutheran Disaster Relief, Perry County Council Literacy Council, Lutheran Camping Corporation, and Reconciling Works each received \$500.

At its April meeting, Council accepted the report of the recent audit, as provided by the finance committee. The report concludes that the financial transactions of Christ Lutheran Church are fairly and accurately stated in all material respects for the year ended December 31, 2024. It can also be concluded that the Treasurer's Report and Balance Sheet fairly and accurately reflects the assets, liabilities and Fund balances of Christ Lutheran Church at December 31, 2024.

Emma to Attend Confirmation Camp

This year, CLC has a confirmation student, Emma, heading off to the Harrisburg Confirmation Camp which will take place mid-June at Camp Nawakwa.

The Harrisburg Area Confirmation Camp serves more than 30 congregations across the Lower Susquehanna Synod. Between 200-250 youth and their congregational advisors gather each year for one week in June to explore the ways God is calling them into a life of discipleship in the world.

One of the most important goals of camp is giving campers the confidence to grow in their faith, know their gifts matter, empowering them to share those gifts with the world, and know that Christ's love is present in their lives. The week is highlighted by daily all-camp worship along with

all-camp games, activities, campfires, and opportunities for fellowship and peer-to-peer learning.

Please keep Emma and the other campers and staff in your prayers! (To learn more about the camp, check out their website - <https://harrisburgconfirmationcamp.org/>) If you have any questions about other camp opportunities, please contact Pastor Jenn.



At the Ranch...

The noise in the lunchroom was loud. Indian children are always excited about food. I slowly walked down the line. The children all wanted a hug. I enjoy this time with them. Then I saw a few children in a huddle. I stepped closer. They were praying, thanking God for the food, eyes closed, hands folded.



A Navajo man was so thankful for the coffee we gave him. He smiled as he glanced around at his dirt floor home and added, when the coffee's gone the container keeps the mice out of our food.



We entered a home. Everyone was very happy for our visit. They wanted us to notice they were sitting around a "very small table" eating. This was the first time the family ever had a table. They giggled as their elbows bumped each other. Fingers were used to eat traditional bread, beans and corn.



I tried many times to talk with a teen Indian girl. The grandmother did not like me talking to her about school or education. She has to herd sheep and take the horses to water grandmother told me in her Navajo language. And she has to learn how to weave rugs and butcher so we have meat to eat. One day grandmother was really ugly. The girl followed me outside. We sat in the warm Arizona sun. The girl was nervous about grandmother's dislike of school. Navajo children should always obey parents and grandparents. I kept talking to the girl. One day I went to visit the girl. Grandmother was ugly when she said, "gone, she's gone." I couldn't find out where "gone" was.

The years went by, but I never forgot the pretty Indian girl with long black hair and eyes that lit up at the sight of books and pencils. I lifted many prayers trusting they would follow her, where ever she was. Recently we were on the reservation giving out much needed items. Through the crowd I heard my name shouted and a tight hug held me close. She's coming back!, she's coming back!, the Indian woman's voice cried out. The girl who loved pencils has returned for a visit. The girl found her way out

where education found her. For many years she has been a teacher teaching under privileged children the English language.



I saw a Navajo Indian lady sweeping her dirt floor, she had a broom, her very first. No furniture was in the traditional hogan home. She had nothing but a big smile on her face. She greeted us in Jesus Name. She was so happy and excited to tell us the great news, "I'm getting baptized!"



Recently I was telling a small child about Jesus and how much He loved her. Her response, "Where does He live?" She has no parents.



A group of Navajo men were fighting and arguing. As it got more heated they needed to cuss. They had to switch to English because there are no cuss words in the Navajo language.



Because of "YOU" these kinds of things can happen. "YOU" keep us on the trails going and giving, praying and saying "Jesus Loves You". He has plans for your life, reach out, receive it.



Looking back, going forward
with your help,
Sylvia and Sylvia

Shundiin and Sylvia Webb share about the past. She continues as Teacher among her people.



This year starts 58 years with the children on the Navajo Reservation. Happy Birthday Sylvia Webb. April 6th.

Financial Statement

Christ Lutheran Church Financial Summary As of March 31 2025

CLC's Current Fund income is \$52,412 through the first 3 months of 2025, \$24,946 greater than in 2024. During the same period, our total Current Fund expense is \$35,650, which was \$3,562 more than 2024. Combined, this amounts to a \$21,384 improvement over 2024.

As of March 31, 2025, our YTD profit is \$16,762. Note that our exceptional income and profit was driven by a \$20,000 gift from St. Matthias, along with \$5,895 salary income from Mt. Zion and \$1,446 in fundraising income.

It is important to understand that these 3 items total \$27,341, and without these income items in the 1st 3 months of 2025, our Current Fund would have incurred a loss of \$10,579.

Our total assets are currently \$96,536, which is \$33,149 greater than a year ago. Our Current Fund Balance is a positive \$39,101, which is \$34,208 greater than March, 2024. Our assets and fund balance both benefited from the same 3 income items noted above.

Summary of Income and Expenses

	2025 March YTD	2025 Expense Budget	Over (Under) Budget
Total Current Fund Income	\$ 52,412	\$ 35,142	\$ 17,270
Total Current Fund Expense	\$ 35,650	\$ 35,142	\$ 508
Net Income (Loss) - Current Fund	\$ 16,762	\$ -	\$ 16,762

Summary of Assets

	Mar. 31, 2025	Mar. 31, 2024	YOY Change
Checking - Members 1st	1,906	1,801	
Savings - Members 1st	2,153	2,080	
Money Market - Members 1st	42,160	25,102	
Mission Investment Accounts	50,317	34,404	
Total Assets	96,536	63,387	33,149

Social Ministry Committee Update



Social ministry members prepared fruit and Easter baskets after Dinner Church on April 16 and delivered them to our shut-in's before Easter.

Additionally, other members at the dinner assembled blessing bags which were blessed by Pastor Jenn. They may be picked up in the church hallway anytime.

Jesus Said...

³⁴I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another.

³⁵By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.” (John 13:34-35)

This seems like it should be so easy, yet sin gets in the way. Humanity falls victim to creating division and boundaries among one another. We declare who is worthy and who is not. We forget that Jesus tells us that Love is what it is all about. Jesus reveals the essence of God is love. Jesus loves extravagantly and completely. Jesus loves us all the way to the cross and to death and to the empty tomb. Let us learn to love one another, siblings in Christ.

This June, you are invited to two educational opportunities:

June 16 at 7:00 - A Case for Love

In this documentary, the film team travels the U.S. searching for people living their lives selflessly, and interviews them about how that way of living affects others and themselves. They also interview random people on the street, discussing where they've witnessed unselfish love and where they've seen its absence. Retired Episcopal Bishop Michael Curry places all we've seen into context.

June 30 at 7:00 – 1946: The Mistranslation that Shifted Culture

This feature documentary follows the story of tireless researchers who trace the origins of the anti-gay movement among Christians to a grave mistranslation of the Bible in 1946. It chronicles the discovery of never-before-seen archives at Yale University which unveil astonishing new revelations, and casts significant doubt on any biblical basis for LGBTQIA+ prejudice. Featuring commentary from prominent scholars as well as opposing pastors, including the personal stories of the film's creators, 1946 is at once challenging, enlightening, and inspiring.



Christ Lutheran frequently gives financial support to Neighbor Helping Neighbor Food Bank as part of our local benevolence. We recently received a statement which provided proof of the good things Perry County communities have done to help our neighbors in need.

The following details were included in the correspondence:

Donations during the month of December helped NHN assist

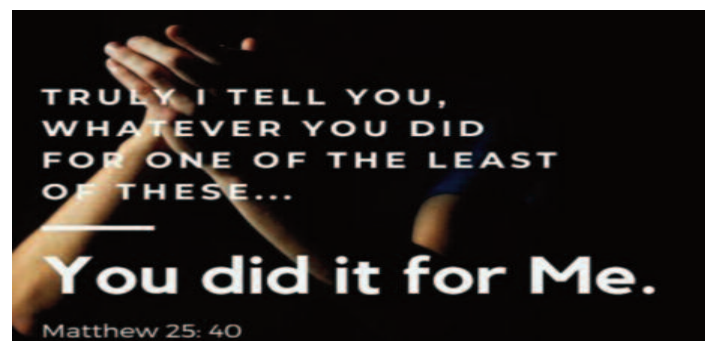
Total Households - 612

Individuals - 1,532

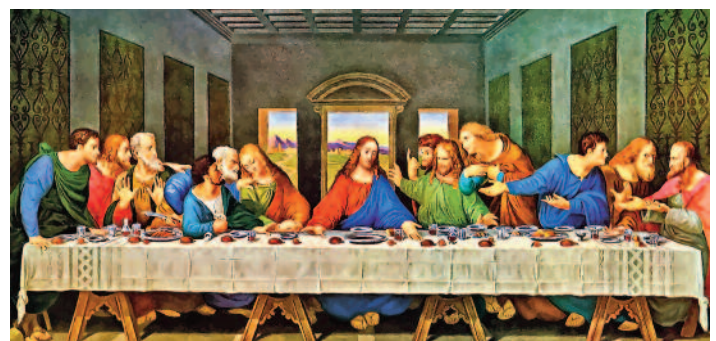
Ages 0-17 - 477

Ages 18-59 - 770

Ages 60+ - 285



During December there were 20 new households with 54 new individuals who received services.



Congregational Connections

Meet the Meisel's

Ernest Meisel and Rebecca Roman both grew up in the Williamsport area. They, in fact, lived very close to one another but didn't become acquainted until college. They met and began dating while attending Susquehanna University.

In 1983 they both graduated and married that November. Ernie became employed at an accounting firm in Hershey, and Becky worked at the Hershey Bank. They lived in Hershey for about 3 ½ years.

On Memorial Day weekend in 1987, they moved into their Roseglen home in Duncannon. Becky was pregnant with Ben at the time. Ben was born on October 12, 1987.

They began attending CLC and became members in 1988. Ben was baptized in July. Their daughter Ellen was born in 1991. At that time Ernie was employed by the Book of the Month Club and Becky was a stay-at-home mom. When Ellen was old enough to join scouting, Becky became a Girl Scout leader and stayed involved in scouts for the next 15 years.

Ernie and Becky have been involved in many ways in the life of our congregation. Over the years both have served on church council as well as on multiple committees, from finance to fellowship. We all know Ernie is CLC's Finance guy! He played on the church volleyball team back in the day. He also serves as an usher. Becky taught Sunday School for a time when her kids were young. She is an LWR quilter as well as an apple dumpling expert! She is also a member of the CLC Book Club.

The Meisel family moved to Marysville in 2006 where they built a new home. At that time, Becky's mom and sister came to live with them.

Ben loves sports. He is a fan of the Philadelphia Phillies as well as the Kansas City Chiefs! He also loves March Madness. Ben's other love is music and he owns a 1957 juke box.

Ellen graduated from Bloomsburg University in 2014 where she majored in Radiology. She stayed in that area and met her future husband Gary while working for the Geisinger Health System. They married in 2016 and their son Graham was born in 2023.



Ernie will soon begin a new chapter in his life as he will be retiring from D&H Distributing at the end of April. Hopefully, he will have more time to go fishing as well as enjoy his vintage Ford Mustang convertible. Congratulations Ernie!

Clean Out for Community Aid

Are you just longing to go through your clothes and shoes and purge? Is time to deliver those unwanted items and issue? If so, CLC has the answer for you.

You can bring your clothing and shoes to the church on Friday, May 23 and Saturday, May 24 and Cindy and Charlene will deliver the items to Community Aid on your behalf. Items must be in bags or boxes.

Please, no items except clothing and shoes.

Nothing else will be accepted.



Friday
12 noon - 4:00
Saturday
12 noon - 2:00

The Things We Do



moments to memories

Dinner Church; Easter Sunday Services; Palm Sunday Service; Hams for Food Baskets; Easter visits to members - Millie & Jerry Bell, Charlotte Dyer, and Shirley Hoffman.

LAMPA - Working for Change

The Community Outreach Committee requested approval from Council to donate the offering from the last weekly Lenten service to the Lutheran Advocacy Ministries of PA. Council approved the request at its April meeting. A total of \$115 was sent to LAMPA.

LAMPA is an advocacy group that works for change in public policy through political channels on behalf of the following biblical values: peace-

making, hospitality to strangers, care for creation, and concern for people living in poverty and struggling with hunger and disease. They are members of the ELCA.

The LAMPA mission statement reads: *In response to God's love in Jesus Christ, we advocate for wise and just public policies in Pennsylvania that promote the common good.*

CLC History Is On the Web



Our History

A few Lutheran families in Petersburg, now Duncannon, invited a newly-licensed minister, the Rev. Andrew Perg (Berg by some accounts), to visit the members scattered along the West branch of the Susquehanna River and as a result, in November 1842, the Rev. Mr. Perg commenced his pastoral labors using the Methodist Episcopal Church for formal sessions.

On one acre of ground donated by Dr. Philip Ebert the small congregation laid the cornerstone of a new church, May 19, 1844 and dedicated the building the following November 10th. It was a stone building, forty feet square, with a gallery at one end and a pulpit at the other.

Below you will find historical content as available for each decade since our church's founding. Check back often as additional decades will be added over time.

1842-1860

The beginnings of Christ Lutheran Church saw our first pastor, Reverend Andrew Perg, who answered an invitation from the Western Pennsylvania

The CLC website task force has been working diligently over the past year to bring the history of Christ Lutheran Church to life by placing it on our website.

The first installment has been made and you can find our history from its beginning in 1842 through the Charter of Incorporation in 1865. By 1870, the congregation was large enough to be self-supporting. As you will see when you read it,

the main concerns were no different than they are today.

Additional decades will be added over time so as to not overwhelm the reader all at once. Please check back often as we will be adding photos as well.

If you have old pictures that you would like to be included in the various updates, feel free to let us copy them for use. We will return your originals. Likewise, if you have historical input that can be used, please share that as

well. History is not just what the historians write. It is also what the people who participated in the making of the history have to provide.

Pictured above is a sample of what you will find when you visit the site and hover over the *Who We Are* menu and then click on the *History* tab. Check it out and give us your feedback. We would love to hear your thoughts!

Visit www.clcduncannon.org today!

Fellowship and Fun

Two fun, family activities were held in May. The first was Movie Night. Attendees enjoyed fellowship, snacks and the Disney movie, *Moana*. At times, there was additional entertainment provided by Alivia and Aubree who, with their dolls, danced, sang and swayed to the music throughout the movie. Everyone was so focused on the movie that when Nancy jumped in shock at one point, the whole group jumped! A fun time, indeed!



A paint party fundraiser was held the same weekend with 27 people participating. Till all was said and done, there was a full garden of beautiful hydrangeas filling the fellowship hall.

Artist and instructor Judy Mummau, guided painters step-by-step on how to paint their personal canvas. It was certainly a beautiful event and a worthwhile fundraiser, earning \$351.



The Measure - The Next Book Club Read

"A story of love and hope as interweaving characters display: how all moments, big and small, can measure a life. If you want joy, love, romance, and hope—read with us."

— Jenna Bush Hager

A luminous, spirit-lifting blockbuster that asks: would you choose to find out the length of your life?

Eight ordinary people. One extraordinary choice.

It seems like any other day. You wake up, drink a cup of coffee, and head out.

But today, when you open your front door, waiting for you is a small wooden box. The contents of this mysterious box tells you the exact number of years you will live.

From suburban doorsteps to desert tents, every person on every continent receives the same box. In an instant, the world is thrust into a collective frenzy. Where did these boxes come from? What do they mean? Is there truth to what they promise?

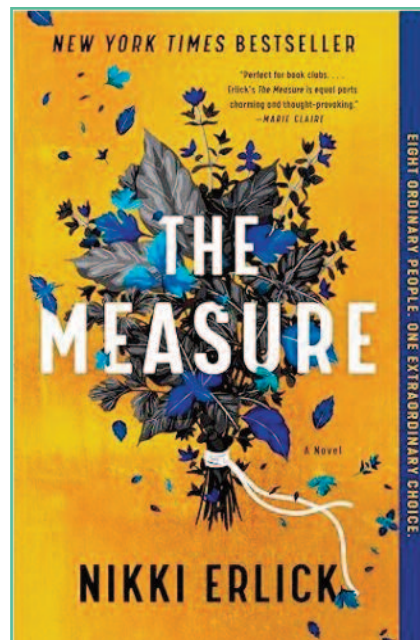
As society comes together and pulls apart, everyone faces the same shocking choice: Do they wish to know how long they'll live? And, if so, what will they do with that knowledge?

The Measure charts the dawn of this new world through an unforgettable cast of characters whose decisions and fates interweave

with one another: best friends whose dreams are forever entwined, pen pals finding refuge in the unknown, a couple who thought they didn't have to rush, a doctor who cannot save himself, and a politician whose box becomes the powder keg that ultimately changes everything.

Enchanting and deeply uplifting, *The Measure* is an ambitious, invigorating story about family, friendship, hope, and destiny that encourages us to live life to the fullest.

There is still time for you to be part of this next reading. Book Club will be held on June 2. See Pastor Jenn for details regarding time and location. You can order your book through Amazon, if you choose or you can also purchase it where you buy your other books.



Exercise In a Chair?!

"Be still and know that I am God"
~ (Psalms 46:10)



In a world where the pressure to race the clock and do more with our days is constantly adamant, let us not forget we are called as God's children. So let's play!

Please join us in a journey where we will

explore Christian Chair Yoga for beginners. This is new to CLC so it will be a fun experience to learn together!

Shaina Stanton will be leading our contemplative chair yoga sessions. Join us for our first class on

Thursday, May 15
6:00 pm

A Tribute to Moms - Happy Mother's Day



Prayers for the Upcoming Synod Assembly

The 2025 Lower Susquehanna Synod Assembly begins on the evening of Thursday, June 5. The assembly will take place at St. Matthew Lutheran Church in York, PA and will be attended by representatives from congregations across the synod. This year we will be electing a new bishop for a six-year term.

Bishop James Dunlop has completed his second term and has chosen not to seek re-election. He will be retiring as of September 1, after completing a three month transition period with the newly elected bishop. The first ballot will be cast on Thursday evening, and it is an

continued on next page

A Tribute to Moms - Happy Mother's Day



Synod Assembly

continued from previous page
ecclesiastical ballot meaning that any Minister of Word and Sacrament (i.e. a "pastor") in the ELCA can be nominated for bishop. All nominations must be made at the time of the first ballot. There are no nominations that take place prior to the assembly. Balloting will continue across

the three days of the assembly until a candidate reaches the required vote threshold.

Pastor Jennifer will attend the assembly as a voting member along with two elected representatives, Bill and Cindy Brookhart. We seek your prayers for the assembly and that the Holy Spirit will guide us toward a wise and faithful leader for the Lower Susquehanna Synod. The new bishop will be announced as soon as the election is complete, likely on Saturday, June 7.

Who is Mary Magdalene

In this season of Easter, we remember Mary Magdalene as the first witness to the resurrection. The gospels of Matthew, John, and the longer ending of Mark identify Mary Magdalene as the first to see the risen Christ, who commissions her to tell the other disciples the good news – which causes many to consider her the Apostle to the Apostles. Luke’s gospel identifies Mary Magdalene as one of several women who are witnesses. In any case, all of the gospels testify that Mary Magdalene was present at the tomb on Easter morning and witnessed resurrected Christ.

Despite the incredibly important role that Mary Magdalene served as the Easter morning witness, she has had a complicated history within the church. Unfortunately, there are a lot of Marys in the Bible, and it is not always clear which Mary is the Mary we are talking about. This has been made more difficult when historical interpreters have conflated one Mary with another (based on very limited evidence or no evidence at all). The most damaging affront to Mary Magdalene’s reputation was caused by the deeply flawed assessment by Pope Gregory the Great, who served from 590-604 CE, that Mary Magdalene was the same “sinful woman” who anointed Jesus’s feet in Luke’s gospel, and he makes the egregious assumption that her sin is that of being a prostitute. On the basis of absolutely no proof, this pope declared Mary Magdalene a prostitute, sullyng her reputation and degrading her standing as a faithful follower of Jesus and the first person to whom Jesus

appears after the resurrection. Scholars, theologians, and pastors continue the work of restoring Mary Magdalene’s reputation and nullifying the inaccurate and unbiblical account offered by Pope Gregory more than 1,400 years ago.

Based on what we know from the Bible, Mary Magdalene was healed of seven demons by Jesus – as he healed many others. We believe she is from the town of Magdala which has been found by modern archaeologists. It is also possible that this reference to “magdalene” could be a nickname from the Greek word meaning “tower” (i.e. Mary the Tower similar to Simon the Rock (petra)) Mary was one of the women who supported the ministry of Jesus, perhaps financially. We do not know if she was married or widowed. The Bible says nothing of her marital status so we assume she was not married. Popular imagination from *The DaVinci Code* and *Jesus Christ Superstar* has speculated about a romantic relationship between Jesus and Mary Magdalene; however, the biblical text does not provide a basis for this, although other non-canonical texts do offer glimpses to this possibility. (See Pastor Jenn if you’d like more information!)

We give thanks for the faithful witness and powerful proclamation of this woman, an apostle of Jesus!

In Memoriam

Gracious Lord,

in sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life through our Lord Jesus Christ, we commend to

God’s loving care, our sister,

Sarah Jane Hickoff.

Eternal rest grant her, O Lord;

And let light perpetual

shine upon her.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

May 13 - Bible Study

May 14 - Hiker Meal Season Begins

May 20 - Bible Study

May 23 - Community Aid Drop Off at Church
12 noon - 4:00

May 24 - Community Aid Drop Off at Church
12 noon - 2:00

May 25 - Giving to God Study

May 27 - Bible Study

June 2 - Book Club

June 5-7 - ELCA Synod Assembly

June 8 - Pentecost

June 10 - Harshbarger's Fundraiser

June 20 - Faith Night at the Harrisburg
Senators Fundraiser

June 21 - Duncannon Appalachian Trail
Festival

July 27 - Newsletter Deadline

Stewardship Snippet

From Jesus's Sermon on the Mount:

¹⁹"Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal, ²⁰but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. (Matthew 6:19-21)

²⁴"No one can serve two masters, for a slave will either hate the one and love the other or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth. (Matthew 6:24)

Jesus teaches and preaches about money more than almost any other topic. Jesus is not a banker nor does he wish to be our financial advisor, but the frequency with which Jesus discusses money should catch our attention and encourage us to ask "Why does Jesus talk so much about this?" To begin, we can easily assume that if Jesus preaches and teaches about this frequently, then it must be important to our life of faith.

The culture in which we live is one in which we do not often talk about money. It is often considered a "taboo" subject and certainly very private.

If you ask many people, they will tell you that they never even knew how much money their parents or grandparents made nor would they share this kind of information with their own children. It is worth asking, why is this something we hold so privately, almost sacredly? Jesus clearly sees it as a topic for discussion. It is simply one of many components of our life, and as our life is to be dedicated fully and completely to God, that includes our finances.

As we can see from the verses about finances, Jesus sees a deep connection between where our hearts are and where our money is. Jesus bluntly says, we cannot serve both wealth and God. We can love only one. Jesus Christ calls our hearts to God, following the righteous path that Christ lays before us. It is through Jesus's teaching that we learn the path of discipleship. You are invited to the fullness of life that is offered by the crucified and risen Christ. May you find joy in the journey.



St. Matthias Bequest

***We are Loved by God, a Family of God,
Caring for the World so that All will know
Christ's Peace.***

– St. Matthias, Carlisle Springs, PA

In 2024, the faith community of St. Matthias Lutheran Church in Carlisle Springs had decided to pursue Holy Closure, and their church building was sold earlier this year to another church. With the proceeds from their sale, the community was able to offer gifts to a variety of ministries, and we are grateful that Christ Lutheran was one of the recipients.

St. Matthias was a small, rural church who recognized that even (perhaps especially) small churches can continue to grow, learn, and share Christ's love in their community. With that commitment, St. Matthias entered into a relationship with the Reconciling Works organization which helps walk churches through the process of formalizing and publicizing their inclusive witness and welcome for all of God's children including those in the BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, People of Color) and LGBTQ+ communities. Their welcome statement read as follows:

"We are St. Matthias Evangelical Lutheran Church. We are loved by God. We are family of God. We are caring for the world so that all will know Christ's peace. We come from a

diversity of traditions. We embrace all races, all abilities, all socioeconomic statuses, all sexual orientations and gender identities as expressions of God's great diversity in this world. We encourage questions. Together we seek God's guidance. We welcome you to the family of God."

Through conversations with Pastor Jennifer, members of St. Matthias have heard of the welcoming work of Christ Lutheran Church, and they wished to offer their support of other small, rural churches. CLC seeks to be a voice of welcome and inclusion for all people as faithful witnesses to the gospel of Jesus Christ which knows no boundaries or separation and through whom all bear the light of Christ and the image of God within them. St. Matthias gifted Christ Lutheran \$20,000 in support of our mission.

The council continues to pray and discern how these monies will be used, but gifts have been shared in the amount of \$500 each to Reconciling Works, Perry County Literacy Council, Lutheran Camping Corporation, and Lutheran Disaster Relief.

We give thanks for the faithful ministry of St. Matthias over so many years in their community and their amazing gift!



There were two bad boys whose parents made them go to church and talk with the pastor. The pastor asked them if they knew how to find God. Stunned, they could not answer. After the pastor asked three time, the boys ran home shouting, "God is missing and they think we did it!"

Pentecost Coloring Picture

