

Niantic News

A monthly publication of Christ Lutheran Church
222 Niantic Road, Barto, PA 19504
610-845-2585 christluthchurh@windstrzam.net
www.christniantic.com

July 2026

Page 1

WWII Honor Roll of Lutheran and Church of Christ, Niantic those who served...

America entered WWII upon the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor and there was a rush to join the armed services and fight for America. The draft was active and not only were there volunteers, but thousands were drafted. Churches, factories, towns and villages erected Honor Rolls to thank their own who were serving. On February 20, 1943 the Niantic Lutheran and Christ Reformed Union Church dedicated a flag in honor of 25 members in service.

Henry R. Beitler
Leroy S. Bernhard
Harry Bernhard
Willis R. Christman
Paul C. Diehl
Harry L. Gehris
Earl Gehris
Norman H. Heydt
Roger M. Hoffman

Ernest W. Hoffman
LeRoy C. Kohler
Lawrence Kohler
Frederick B. Krauss
Howard B. Krause
Charles J. Matz
Edwin Leroy R. Mathias
William A. Miller
Harrison Miller

Chester S. Moser
Harris Reigner
Earl Reigner
Harold B. Ritter
Russell C. Slonaker
Paul F. Weller
Earl Yoder

The Mercury
20 Feb 1943, Sat - Page 6

Church to Honor Men in Service

A service flag will be dedicated at the service, tomorrow morning at 10 o'clock in Christ Reformed and Lutheran church, Niantic, in honor of the following members, who are in the service of their country: Henry R. Beitler, Leroy S. Bernhard, Harry Bernhard, Willis R. Christman, Paul C. Diehl, Harry L. Gehris, Earl Gehris, Norman H. Heydt, Roger M. Hoffman, Ernest W. Hoffman, LeRoy C. Kohler, Lawrence Kohler, Frederick B. Krauss, Howard B. Krause, Charles J. Matz, Edwin Leroy R. Mathias, William A. Miller, Harrison Miller, Chester S. Moser, Harris Reigner, Earl Reigner, Harold B. Ritter, Russell C. Slonaker, Paul F. Weller and Earl Yoder.

That number would grow to 59 by the end of the war. Of these 59, 49 returned safely to go on with their lives, 8 would either remain in the service or re-enlist. Two made the supreme sacrifice. One, John Schantz, was killed in action and one, Harris Reigner, died in a prison camp. A service flag was dedicated at the morning service, at 10 o'clock in Christ Reformed and Lutheran Church, Niantic, in honor of the following members: Those listed in the welcome home service in September of 1946 included 31 Lutherans and 18 Reformed...

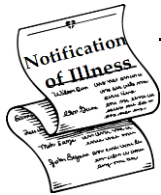
Lutheran congregation servicemen who have returned are Robert Badman, Curtis Binder, Eugene Binder, Fred Binder, George Brensinger, Lloyd Carpenter, Willis Christman, Theodore Destan, Paul Diehl, Norman Gaugler, William Guinther, Charles Himmelwright Jr., Norman Heydt, Ernest Hoffman, Roger Hoffman, Frederick Krauss, Howard Krauss, Marvin Krauss, Harry Kriebel, William A. Loose, William A. Miller, Chester Moser, Eary Reigner, Harold Ritter, Stanley Sell, Lewis Shonaker, Russell Slonaker, Henry Stofflet, Harvey A. Styer, Francis Wampole, and Earl Yoder. Leroy Stoudt and George Stofflet are still in service, while Edwin Yeager has reenlisted.

Servicemen who have returned from the Reformed church are LeRoy S. Bernhard, Harry Bernhard, Paul T. Bernhart, Henry R. Beitler, Edwin L. Christman, Annie Gehris, Earl L. Gehris, Harry L. Gehris, Lawrence R. Gehris, Francis W. Jacob, Lawrence E. Kahler, LeRoy E. Kahler, LeRoy Mathias, Harrison S. Miller, Carl R. Reigner, Paul E. Weller, Gerald Wetzell and Harold S. Zern. Still in service are Earl S. Bernhard, Lester G. Christman, Edwin N. Gehman Jr., Harold C. Krauss, Charles J. Matz and Kenneth Weller.

Submitted by,
Betty Burdan

Official Pastoral Acts

(Baptisms, Funerals, Weddings)
 Funeral of Robert Aston on Thursday
 June 11, 2026. Officiated by
 Pr. George Hege at Morrell.



Notification in Case of Illness

Christ Niantic Lutheran hopes that all members will notify the church office if they become aware of any member who is ill or who may have other

pastoral needs. Please do not assume that "someone else" has already called. We do not mind receiving multiple notifications. Thank you!

From the Church Office

Newsletter Deadline

Information for the August issue of the Niantic News is due by **Tuesday, July 14th**. If you have something to submit, PLEASE DO YOUR BEST TO MEET THIS DEADLINE! It takes time to type, layout, proofread, and print the newsletter BEFORE it gets assembled. There are several ways for you to submit your articles.

- E-mail it to me at christluthchurch@windstream.net;
- Submit it on your USB flash drive, which will be returned for reuse;
- Place your typed or neatly written copy in my mailbox outside of the offices.

Thank you, Melissa

Attendance



<u>Date</u>	<u>Worship</u>	<u>Conf.</u>
May 3	51	5
May 10	52	3
May 17	50	-
May 24 (P)	44	-
May 31 (Conf.)	60	-
(P) = Pentecost; (Conf.) = Confirmation		
2025 Sun. Avg.	67	4
2026 Sun. Avg.:	79	3
<i>(Prior year averages are based on same time period)</i>		

July Birthdays (*non-member)

- 1 Tanner Willman
- 3 Kole Davidheiser
- 4 Alicia Bauer
- 8 Steve Novotny
- 9 Mary Asplen, Dawn Sandoval
- 10 Michael Fluke
- 13 Randy Shaner, Anthony Suriano
- 14 Jason Hoffman, Dorothy Houser
- 15 Tammy Hoffman, Otto Nuss (1938)
- 17 Linda Hoffman
- 19 Dylan Drury
- 21 Nancy Haas (1943), LaVerne Moser (1944)
- 22 Kalyn Bartman, Julia Menear
- 25 Alexis Brown
- 28 Merle Deery
- 29 Olivia Fluke, Harley Hoffman, Michael Stevens II*
- 30 Ruth Weller
- 31 Cindy Miller



MEMBERSHIP AT CHRIST LUTHERAN

VISITORS are always welcome to the Table!

MEMBERS (two types): Voting & Non-voting

The only way you can ever be removed from the membership roll at Christ Lutheran, or any ELCA congregation:

- You request a transfer
- You ask to be removed
- You depart this life

VOTING members must make a record of having:

- Filled out a communion card and received the Lord's Supper ONE time per year
- Contributed ONE time per year, making sure your name or envelope number is included

Safe Place Policy

On May 26th, the council approved an updated version of our previous 2015 Safe Place Policy. The policy represents the congregation's commitment to maintaining a safe and caring environment for all who enter our community. If anyone would like a copy of the policy, please let me know.

Dave Fioriglio
Council President

QUILT TYING

will **NOT** be held in the month of July!
BUT the...

Lutheran Ladies Lunch

will be held on
Tuesday, July 14 at 12 noon.

We will be going to Bella Italia Restaurant, 1604 Memorial Hwy. Oley (near Friedens Lutheran) for a 12 noon lunch.

Please meet in Welcome Center by 11:30 a.m. for lunch at 12 noon or meet us there!

Jen & Jessie's for ice cream afterwards!!



Thank you...

...to the Endowment committee for your generous donation to the Mission Trip Birdsboro & Beyond Team. We thank you for your support of serving people in our local area. You are a blessing to our community!

NTBB ♥

...Bear Creek Camp continues to be able to put good into the world because of your generous spirit. Time in community, connection with nature, a place where everyone can experience God's love – these are the meaningful and necessary impacts given to campers, summer staff, and guest of all ages through your gift (from Endowment). Thank you for your partnership! See you at camp soon!

Collin Groom, Exec. Director

Book Club

The Book Club will be reading the book: **"We Are Not Like Them" by Christine Pride**. The book is a Book in a Bag book that can be picked up and signed out from the bag on table in Welcome Center.

We will meet on **Tuesday, July 7 at 7:00 p.m.** in the Welcome Center to discuss the book.

Participants are asked to come with suggestions for future reads.

If you have any questions, please contact Roxanne Fox.



**Hymn Sing Sundays:
Sunday, July 26
and
Sunday, August 30**

If there is a particular hymn you'd like to sing, please talk to or e-mail Deb Matthews, well in advance, to let her know.



Summer Offerings

Before you go off on your summer vacation, remember that our congregation's mission and various ministries continue while you are away. That means that the expenses associated with our ministries go on as well. So before you head off on that "get away," place your weekly offering in the plate, drop it off or mail it into the church office.

2027 Budget Requests DUE!

The 2027 Budget Requests are DUE to the Finance Committee by Sunday, August 9. If you are a committee or an employee with a budget line, please make sure your request gets in by Sunday, August 9th!



2026 Graduates



The Graduates below were announced at the worship service on Sunday, June 7, 2026!

Callie Bartman, daughter of Kalyn and Bruce Bartman, graduated on June 5 from Boyertown High School. During high school, Callie was a member of the National Honor Society, Impact Club, Link Crew, and received high honors every year of high school. In the fall, Callie will be attending Millersville University and majoring in Elementary Education and Special Education.

Ian Eichinger, son of Amy and Jonathan Eichinger, graduated from Boyertown High School on Friday, June 5. While in high school, he had high honors. Ian's plans beginning in the fall is to attend University of Pittsburgh for engineering.

Emily Francisco, daughter of Holly and John Francisco, graduated Magna Cum Laude on May 16 from Kutztown University with a Bachelor's degree in Social Work. While a student at Kutztown, she was a member of the Phi Alpha Honor Society and the Social Works Advocates of Kutztown, for which she served as vice-president. Emily also coached for the Upper Perkiomen YMCA swim team during her college years. Emily has accepted a position with Berks Co. Children and Youth where she will be an intake case worker.

Rebecca Sandoval, daughter of Dawn Sandoval, who is currently abroad, graduated on May 24 with a Bachelor of Arts in Politics and Spanish degree. During her college life, she was Magna Cum Laude, Resident Advisor, Research Assistant, Spanish Tutor, College Democrats President, Himelstein Prize for Best paper in Politics, Benjamin A Gilman International Scholarship recipient, and studied abroad in Santiago, Chile. After her graduation, she plans to travel and work before applying to law school.

Zoe Eichinger, daughter of Amy and Jonathan Eichinger, graduated from Kutztown University with a Bachelor's Degree in Art Education with a minor in Art History on May 16. She graduated Summa Cum Laude, studied abroad in Ireland, volunteered in clubs sponsored by local schools, and textile club. She is going to look for a teaching position in a high school setting.

*We Congratulate every one of you on this accomplishment!
We pray God will guide you on your journey!*

Mercy Ministry

Chershe Derr, Chairperson

FOOD PANTRY COLLECTION

The July/August collection of food for local food banks will be donated to Open Link in Pennsburg. Any item is appreciated, but there is a special need for the following:

Food:

Kids cereal; condiments (mayo, mustard etc.); baking mix; pasta & rice sides; canned tuna; canned chicken; granola/breakfast bars; fruit juice; pet food

Personal Care and Cleaning Items:

Shampoo; conditioner; body wash; deodorant; cleaning supplies; diapers

Place items in designated boxes located in the coat/mail room.

**Please make sure all donated items are within a good expiration date.

Redner's Save-A-Tape Program

Shirley Deery, coordinator

Please continue saving your Redner's Save-a-Tape receipts BUT make sure you DO NOT cut anything off the bottom of the receipt. We need the whole receipt in order to get the 1% back. Simply get a Save-a-Tape card from Redners, shop and turn your entire receipt into the box in the narthex. We earn 1% of all receipts we receive. Any questions, please contact Shirley Deery at (610) 367-0548.



"Birthday" Bags

The Mercy Ministry committee will be doing a collection of items for the Boyertown Multi-Service's "Birthday" bag program. During August, we will be collecting items (such as cake mix, frosting, paper plates, etc.) to place in gift bags for Multi-Service to distribute to their clients. We will assemble the bags after church on Sunday, September 13th for "God's Work, Our Hands" Sunday. More details in the August newsletter.

Prayer Concerns

Prayer Chain Initiator:

June Herb at (610) 754-7841 or junerose56@aol.com

NOTE: Names on the prayer list remain on for one month, unless someone notifies June or the office to remain on longer.



Health & Healing:

Mary Ache
Jennifer Lowery-Bomboy (6/15)
Ron Conrad – uncle of Denise Hoffman and Gerry Flicker
Chershe Derr (6/13)
Pat Gabel – Bob's wife
Heather – daughter of Kathy Romich/cousin of Lisa Heydt
Leroy Heissler – friend of Denise Hoffman's family
Charlie Hoffman
Tim Hoffman – Denise Hoffman and Gerry Flicker's b-i-l
Crystal Hughes - Friend of Laurie Stofflet
Regina Lee – friend of Pat Moser's daughter
Gloria Mauger – friend of Eloise Swavely
Barbara Moser – Lori Ermold's mother
Judy Moser
Pat Moser
Otto Nuss
Polly Orner
Pr. Jennifer Phelps – former member at CLC
Sylvia Schoenly – Sue Hoffman's sister-in-law
Todd (Scruffy) Slonaker – cousin of Gerry Flicker and Denise Hoffman
Bill Starrett – friend of Terry/Gerry Flicker, attends CLC
Mark Stofflet (5/28)
Eileen Swavely – June Herb's cousin (6/22)
Tiffany - Nancy Fioriglio's cousin's daughter
Steve Wanders –brother-in-law of Roberta Korsak's sister
Elaine Wolfe – friend of Linda Hoffman

God's Presence, Strength and Healing...

Dana and family – friend of Melissa Seasholtz's daughter

Death (Family and Friends of...):

Bob Aston (6/5)

Crystal Christine – mother of a child in Pat Moser's daughter's class (6/9)

Military Deployed to Conflict Area/Serving in the Military*:

Owen Dietrich – cousin of Lindsey (Riegner) Mason;
Anthony Lester – friend of Lindsey (Riegner) Mason; Dustin Lowery – Jennifer Lowery-Bomboy's nephew; Quinn Mason - Lindsey (Riegner) Mason's stepson; Matthew and Joseph Schwenk - nephews of Amy Eichinger; Nathan Powell – son of a friend of Amy Fluke

*If you know someone that is deployed or serving, please contact June or the church office to put them back on the list. Thank you.

Homebound Members of Christ Lutheran Church:

*For current addresses of our Homebound, please contact the church office.

Mary Ache; Hilda Kolb (Frederick Living/Cedarwood Rm. 1309B); Barbara Hoffman (Assisted Living in Wilmington, DE)

Highlights from the April 28, 2026 Council Meeting:

PRIORITY ITEMS


1. Pr. Zaiser Meet and Greet
 - a. Main role is to work in an administrative capacity for the church and fill in for emergencies
 - b. Fill in for council meetings
 2. Synod Assembly
 - a. May 29th and 30th and Lansdale
 - b. Last call for attendance from member
 3. Vitality Survey Reboot and Ministry site profile remove
 - a. Plan to reach back out to Pastor Manson in regards to the survey
 4. Interim Consultant
 - a. Still in search of finding an interim consult to help match a pastor to our existing ministry profile
 5. Endowment Committee Approval

Roxanne Fox makes motion to approve the grant proposals, seconded by Marvin Steward, Motion Passed.
- Idea floated to put financial numbers in the bulletin due to low giving numbers for the year. Would include Current period, YTD, a YTD prior.
A motion made by Lori Ermold and seconded by Pat Moser. Motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS:

Safe place policy Review
In person meeting to review changes with Bob, Dave, and Braden.

Respectfully submitted,
Dan Knaub, Council Secretary



Newsletter's Page 1

Do you like to write?

Do you have an inspiring story?

Memories of CLC that you'd like to share?

I am looking for volunteers to sign-up to write something for Page 1 of upcoming Niantic News Newsletters.

If you'd like to do that, please email the church office or call and let me know.

The deadline for the submission would be the 2nd Tuesday of the month prior.

Thank you, Melissa (Admin Assist)

Income & Expense as of May 2026

	Current Month	Year-to-date	Prior Year-to-date
Income	\$ 15,951	\$ 61,832	\$ 56,123
Expenses	\$ 7,634	\$ 64,047	\$ 83,308
Excess Income / (Expenses)	\$ 8,317	\$ (2,215)	\$ (27,185)



Outdoor Worship /
Church Picnic



Please join the FUN Committee for our annual Outdoor Worship service and Church Picnic on **Sunday July 19th at Barto Park, 122 Barto Road**. Please plan to arrive after **11:45** and the worship service, being led by Pat and LaVerne Moser, will begin at **12:15**, with the picnic immediately following.

We are asking everyone to bring their favorite lawn chair and also a dish to share (drinks and main dishes will be provided).

We will have fellowship, games and other surprises throughout the day!
If you have any questions, please speak to any member of the FUN Committee and don't forget to **sign-up** for the picnic **in the narthex!**

We hope to see you at the Barto Park on July 19th!



UPCOMING F.U.N. ACTIVITIES –
Save the Dates!!

Sunday, July 19 ~ Outdoor Worship and Church Picnic at Barto Park (see above)

Sunday, August 16 ~ Sundaes at Sunset

Saturday, Sept. 12 ~ Iron Pigs Baseball Game



October 2026 ~ Kick-off for Boyertown Multi-Service Festival of Trees



Advent 2026 ~ FUN Committee's "100th Activity" Extravaganza **100th Activity!**

Sunday, December 13 ~ Miracle on 34th Street play

January 16, 2027 ~ Sportsman's Dinner



More details to follow on all activities!!

Christ Lutheran Church, Niantic
Income and Expense Statement
 Consolidated - May 2026

06/22/2026 08:03 AM

Page: 1

	Current Period	Year to Date	YTD Prior Year
INCOME			
CONTRIBUTIONS	\$14,151.92	\$56,641.97	\$52,617.97
OTHER FUND CONTRIBUTIONS	1,705.00	4,161.00	2,982.84
INVESTMENT INCOME	94.27	1,028.66	545.57
OTHER INCOME	0.00	0.00	(23.07)
TOTAL INCOME	15,951.19	61,831.63	56,123.31
EXPENSES			
SALARIES			
PASTORAL MINISTRY	\$254.44	\$15,567.09	\$20,935.28
OTHER STAFF	5,006.05	18,514.85	16,349.10
Subtotal Salaries	5,260.49	34,081.94	37,284.38
WORSHIP			
MUSIC	9.53	617.96	321.18
ORGAN & PIANO MAINTENANCE	208.30	600.33	0.00
WORSHIP SUPPLIES	545.25	1,501.24	1,326.00
Subtotal Worship	763.08	2,719.53	1,647.18
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION			
CURRICULUM MATERIALS	151.18	151.18	0.00
OTHER MINISTRIES	0.00	87.00	174.00
SOCIAL MINISTRY/OUTREACH			
COMMUNITY SERVICE AGENCY	0.00	0.00	51.42
ADVERTISING EXPENSE	19.00	190.40	124.97
STEWARDSHIP	0.00	422.39	523.78
INTERNET EXPENSES	327.08	1,707.36	1,675.20
Subtotal Social Ministry/outreach	346.08	2,320.15	2,375.37
CHURCH ADMINISTRATION			
ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSE	138.52	766.90	971.80
EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE	0.00	1,227.92	831.48
Subtotal Church Administration	138.52	1,994.82	1,803.28
BUILDING OPERATIONS			
HEAT, ELECTRIC & GAS	347.24	10,465.99	9,956.61
CLEANING SUPPLIES	550.00	2,321.06	2,480.84
REAL ESTATE TAX	0.00	33.07	31.07
BUILDING MAINTENANCE	77.07	4,795.18	1,022.58
Subtotal Building Operations	974.31	17,615.30	13,491.10
INSURANCE	0.00	5,077.00	4,784.50
FUND EXPENSES	0.00	0.00	21,748.77
TOTAL EXPENSES	7,633.66	64,046.92	83,308.58
EXCESS INCOME/EXPENSES	\$8,317.53	(\$2,215.29)	(\$27,185.27)

Respectfully submitted
Juan Hoffman

Church Office Hours:

Monday – Friday: 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Worship:

9:00 a.m. ~ The Sacrament of Holy Communion is offered on the first Sunday of each month and on all festivals when an ordained pastor is at CLC.

Church Staff

Pastor: Vacant ~ clcpastor@windstream.net
Minister of Music: Deborah Matthews ~ debmatth@comcast.net
Administrative Assistant: Melissa Seasholtz ~ christluthchurch@windstream.net

2026 Congregational Council

President: Dave Fioriglio Vice President: Bob Heydt
Secretary: Dan Knaub Treasurer: Sue Hoffman**
Assistant Treasurer: Nancy Fioriglio** Financial Treasurer: Kathy Watts**
e-mail: clcfinancial@windstream.net

Braden Bartman Lori Ermold Keith Folk
Roxanne Fox Norm Hoffman Roberta Korsak
Pat Moser Marvin Steward _____+ (5/26 – 4/27)

(**non-council member / +youth member / second term)

Ministry Assistants for July 2026

	Acolyte	Lector	Communion Assist	Assisting Minister	Ushers/Greeters
July 5 9:00 a.m.	_____*	Diane Houck	Sue Hoffman	Denise Hoffman	Bruce Houck and _____*
July 12 9:00 a.m.	_____*	Nancy Fioriglio		_____*	The Deery's
July 19 12 noon Outdoor Worship	_____*	Pat Moser		Pat/La Verne Moser	Ginnie Wilkinson and Bob Heydt
July 26 9:00 a.m. Hymn Sing	_____*	Sue Hoffman		Denise Hoffman leading worship	_____ and _____*

Altar Guild: July 5: Diane and Bruce Houck; **July 12:** Chershe Derr; **July 19:** Outdoor Service/FUN Comm.; **July 26:** Chershe Derr

Counting Team: Team C: Bruce Houck (capt.), Diane Houck, Nancy Fioriglio, Dave Fioriglio, Steve Novonty

_____ * = Help is needed. If you can help, please contact the church office or just volunteer on that Sunday morning. Thanks.

