

Niantic News

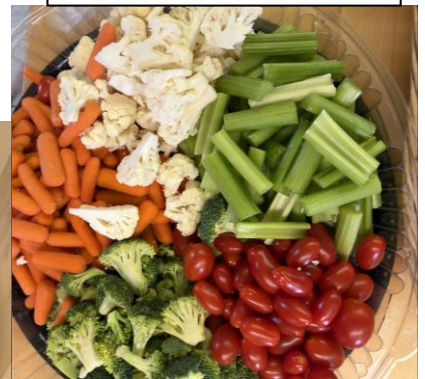
A monthly publication of Christ Lutheran Church
222 Niantic Road, Barto, PA 19504
610-845-2583 christluthchurch@windstream.net
www.christniantic.com

November 2026

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Pictures provided by...
Ginnie Wilkinson



Happy 80+ Birthday!!

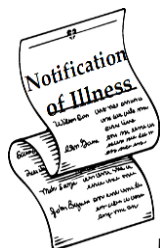


On Saturday, October 17, the FUN Committee hosted the 80+ Birthday Party for all members who are 80+ young! They were served lunch followed by cake and ice cream! It was a fun afternoon celebrating those matriarchs of the congregation! Happy Birthday to all our 80+ members!

Official Pastoral Acts

(Baptisms, Funerals, Weddings)

None since September 25.

**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!

**Attendance**

Date	Worship	
September 6	43	
September 13	48	
September 20	38	
September 27	44	
2025 Sun. Avg.:	50	7 / 12 (Conf./BS)
2026 Sun. Avg.:	43	- / -

[Prior year averages are based on same time period]



Sunday, November 1
Don't forget!

2026 Worship Helpers Needed

Would you like to serve as an Acolyte / Lector / Assisting Minister / Communion Assist / Usher/Greeter for the remainder of 2026?

Help is needed in all of these assisting positions. Please contact the church office to sign up.

From the Church Office:**Office Hours**

The Church Office Hours are Monday through Friday, 9 – 2 p.m. Please call Pr. Eugene Zaiser, vice-Pastor of CLC, at: 610-322-0901 for pastoral emergencies.

Newsletter Deadline

Information for the December issue of the Niantic News is due by Tuesday, November 10th.

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 can be borrowed from the church office and returned with article saved on it;
- ☒ Place your typed or neatly written copy in my mailbox in the coat/mail room.

November Birthdays

- 1 Dawn R. Hoffman
- 2 Wally Updegrave (1942)
- 4 Johanna Benner (1946)
- 6 Robert Borneman (1943), Kathy Nase, Debbie Pienta
- 10 Aaron Hoffman, Denise Witman
- 11 Kurt Davidheiser, Melissa Seasholtz
- 12 Sandra Moll (1942)
- 13 Hattie Terkowski
- 17 Matthew D. Hoffman
- 18 Leigh Ann Roberts
- 22 Emily Francisco
- 29 Jason Carter, Lisa Knaub
- 30 Clark Yoder (1944)



All Saints' Sunday**Sunday, November 1, 2026**

On November 1, we remember all those members of the Christian Church who have entered the Church Triumphant, and especially those members of Christ Niantic including Dorothy Willing; Glenn Hoffman; Gerald Flicker; Bob Aston; Polly Orner; Hilda Kolb and Charlie Hoffman or persons closely connected to it who have died during the past year.

*During the service on November 1st, we will dedicate memorials and gifts received during the year and remember those who died in the Lord in our prayers.
Join us this special day.*

Quilt Tying

On **Tuesday, November 10** beginning at 10:00 a.m., we will be tying quilts in the social hall.

Help is always needed!!

Then we will go to the...

Lutheran Ladies Lunch

Our next lunch will be **Tuesday, November 10** at 12 noon. We will be going to Pizza Como/PC Pub, 468 Pottstown Ave (Rte. 663), Pennsburg. We will meet in the church parking lot at 11:30 a.m. to carpool or meet us at Pizza Como/PC Pub at 12 noon.
Hope you can join us!



Congregational
Meeting

Congregational Meeting**Sunday, November 15, 2026**

This serves as official notification that a meeting of this congregation will be held immediately following the worship service at **9:00 AM** on Sunday, November 15, 2026. Agenda items for the meeting include: Approval of 2027 Budget; Nomination/election of council Members. Copies of the 2027 Budget will be sent via a separate e-mail or pick up a copy in the narthex. Please bring the copies with you to the meeting.

Thank you...

...for the afghans that you donated to the Lebanon VA Medical Center patients and staff. Thank you for your continued support.

**Jason Lane, Chief,
Voluntary Service**

...for your generous donation of 110 pounds of miscellaneous groceries on Oct. 5 in support of Boyertown Multi-Service. Your contribution makes it possible for us to further our cause. Thank you again for your contribution.

Boyertown Area Multi-Service

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

Advent 2026 ~ FUN Committee's "100th Activity" Extravaganza
December 13 ~ Miracle on 34th Street play
January 16, 2027 ~ Sportsman's Dinner

More details to follow on all activities!!

Christ the King Sunday**Sunday, November 22, 2026**

On this last Sunday of the church year, we honor Christ, who reigns as king from the cross. The Lord Jesus was not wealthy or famous. He did not promise his followers that they would possess riches, power, or prestige. He was named a king only in his death. He left his disciples the treasure of his body and blood. As we gather this day, we wear the crown of baptism and trace his royal sign—the holy cross—over our brows and bodies. We leave here strengthened to serve those who are hungry, thirsty, strangers, naked, sick, and imprisoned. We look for the day when all earth's people will see him coming with the scepter of peace and the crown of justice.

Thanksgiving Eve Ecumenical Service

Tuesday, November 24
 at 7:00 p.m. at
 Trinity Lutheran Church, Bechtelsville.
 More information will be
 forthcoming.
 *Please note day change.



Christmas Open House
Sunday, December 20
Time: 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Once again, this year we will be hosting the "Christmas Open House" for the community to share in the joy of the Christmas season.

We will have tours of the church, caroling, tree lighting, Santa and Mrs. Clause, and delicious cookies and hot chocolate.

Jill Watkins will once again play the piano and if anyone else would like to play an instrument, please contact Jennifer Lowery-Bomboy or the church office.

If you would like to help at the Open House or donated cookies or drink, please sign-up in the narthex or contact Jennifer Lowery-Bomboy or the church office.

Invite your friends, family, neighbors for some fellowship, tour, cookies & beverages, music and carols!

Prayer Concerns

Prayer Chain Initiator:

June Herb 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:

Jim Barr

Jennifer Lowery-Bomboy

Richard Campbell – Roberta Korsak's brother-in-law

Arden Elliott - Ron Elliott's grandson

Terry Flicker

Pat Gabel – Bob's wife

Heather – daughter of Kathy Romich/cousin of Lisa Heydt

Tim Hoffman – Denise Hoffman and Gerry Flicker's brother-in-law

Crystal Hughes - Friend of Laurie Stofflet

Gordie Moser – cousin of LaVerne Moser

LaVerne (Muck) Moser

Otto Nuss

Danille Saporito – neighbor of Roberta Korsak

Bill Starrett – friend of Terry/Gerry Flicker, attends CLC

Mark Stofflet

Jay Swavely - Harold's brother

Tiffany - Nancy Fioriglio's cousin's daughter

Wally Updegrove

Dottie Werner – Nancy Folk's sister

Elaine Wolf – friend of Linda Hoffman

Joyce Wood – sister-in-law of June Herb

Death (Family and Friends of...):

David Fioriglio – Dave's father, Nancy's father-in-law (10/6)

David Brennan – friend of Amy Fluke (10/12)

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;

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; Barbara Hoffman (Assisted Living in Wilmington, DE)



Mercy Ministry

Chershe Derr, Chairperson

Salvation Army Thanksgiving Food Donations, Christmas Food Boxes

During these difficult times, let us not forget our local food banks and donate to the Salvation Army during November and December. This food drive will benefit their **Thanksgiving Drive Thru Meal** on Thanksgiving (donations accepted through **November 22**), the **Christmas Food Boxes** (donations accepted through **December 13**), as well as stocking their food pantry. All types of canned goods or other non-perishable food items are needed. Items especially needed are as follows: canned vegetables, stuffing mix, instant potatoes, canned sweet potatoes, cranberry sauce, mac and cheese dinners, soups, canned chicken or tuna, cereal and pancake mix.

Donations of **hams** or turkeys for the Christmas Food Boxes may also be donated, and again should be taken directly to the Salvation Army because of the need for refrigeration. Please deliver to Salvation Army directly by December 14. If this is a problem, please contact Kay Barr.

They ask that you please do not donate outdated items. All donated items will go to help people in need throughout the Boyertown Area.

Please place items in designated boxes located near the water cooler just outside the Welcome Center. Thank you!

Let us help our neighbors in need especially this year!



Christmas Card Exchange

SHARING CHRISTMAS
GREETINGS WITH CHURCH
FRIENDS HELPS FUND MERCY
MINISTRY PROJECTS

The annual Christmas Card Exchange begins **Sunday, November 29**. Place Christmas cards, addressed to congregation members, in the box in the Parlor. Then put the amount you saved on postage in a pew envelope and mark it "Christmas Card Exchange." Cards will be sorted by the Mercy Ministry committee. Don't forget to stop in the Parlor to pick up your cards!

Redner's Save-A-Tape Program

Mercy Ministry is still collecting Redner's Save-a-Tape BUT when submitting your receipts, I have to have the bottom part that says "Today's Contribution - \$XX.xx" or Save-a-Tape with the dollar figure. Without this on the bottom, Redner's will not give us the 1% back. So, all you need to do is get a Save-A-Tape card from Redners, go shopping at Redner's and deposit your complete receipt in the box in the narthex. Redner's will send us a check for 1% of the receipts! It's that easy! Any questions, please contact Shirley Deery at (610) 367-0548. **NOTE: a NEW coordinator** of the Redner's Tape is being sought! Shirley has been doing this for many years. If you would like to know more, please see Shirley!

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.



Highlights of the Council Meeting on August 25, 2026:

1. Family wants to do a baptism.

-If the child was baptized here that would make the child a member of this congregation. Want to make sure that the family is aware of this. Consensus as council to reach out to Pastor Mellon.

OLD BUSINESS:

Lot update:

The disposal of an asset (the lot) will need to be approved by the congregation. The church should likely move forward getting the property officially appraised before selling.

Transition update:

Dave and Bob met with pastor Sellers. Pastor Sellers is hoping to help connect the congregation with a consultant who will help continue the transition process. SE Synod still does not have a true multi congregational system for part-time ministry. There may be a potential UCC congregations who we could also work with.

Respectfully submitted,
Dan Knaub, Council Secretary

Upcoming F.U.N. Advent Extravaganza



Happening Now – Multi Service Christmas Tree in the Welcome Center. The theme is Bundle of F.U.N. Please help us sponsor this very important fundraiser for Boyertown Multi Service!

- **November 29** - Join us for a light lunch and to help pack gift bags for shut-ins and community members!



December 6 – Coffee hour and Cookie Exchange –

Bring a dozen cookies (or two) to share and take home a dozen different cookies to enjoy!

- **December 13** - Miracle on 34th Street at Steel River Theater in Pottstown. For those of you who signed up, tickets are \$15 each, please make checks payable to "CLC" and put in a pew envelope or give to Lisa Heydt for deposit and payment to Steel River. Some people have shown interest in carpooling, so we will be reaching out to all of you soon.

- **December 20** - Christmas Open House and Christmas Carols – 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm. (Music provided by Jill Watkins through Kevin and Jennifer Bomboy). Please come join us again this year for the Open House and a Christmas Carol Sing Along. Enjoy light refreshments together to celebrate the joyous season! More info on page 4 of newsletter.



Income & Expense as of September 2026

	Current Month	Year-to-date	Prior Year-to-date
Income	\$ 7,350	\$ 91,229	\$ 90,601
Expenses	\$ 8,360	\$ 91,121	\$ 105,138
Excess Income / (Expenses)	\$ (1,010)	\$ 108	\$ (14,537)



BOYERTOWN MULTI-SERVICE

FESTIVAL OF TREES

Holiday Celebration

CELEBRATING 20 YEARS OF HOLIDAY MAGIC!

SPONSOR A TREE • SHOWCASE YOUR BUSINESS • SUPPORT OUR COMMUNITY

Festival of Trees is an indoor holiday display featuring dozens of beautifully decorated Christmas trees, each uniquely designed and decorated by local businesses, organizations, families and community members. Visitors walk through the display, enjoy the creativity and holiday atmosphere, and vote for their favorite trees.

YOUR SUPPORT MAKES A DIFFERENCE

Active Adult Center | Preston's Pantry | Case Management | Ricketts Center

2026 FESTIVAL DATES

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4 & SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5

5:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Contact Frank Buttaro Jr.

610-367-6957, ext 230 | fbuttaro@boyertownareamulti-service.org

If you would like either your cell number and/or your e-mail information published in the 2027 Membership Directory and have not done so in prior years or if info has changed, please fill out the form below and place in Melissa's (Administrative Assistant) mailbox. Thank you.



Membership Directory Update

If you have not done so or you have updated information and would like it included in the Membership Directory that is published in January, please complete this permission form to have this information updated/listed in the directory.

I, _____, give my permission to have my
(name)
 e-mail: _____ and/or
 cell phone: _____ published.

Please complete as much information as you would like listed in the directory.
 Please drop off or mail back to the church office by Friday, December 11. Thank you.



Beautiful poinsettias will once again adorn our chancel for our Christmas Eve Services and you are invited to sponsor one or more plants in memory or in honor of loved ones. Please use this form to indicate your desires. Place the form in an envelope along with your check (payable to: *"Christ Lutheran Church"* for \$14.50 for each plant you order. **Deadline to order is Sunday, December 6, 2026.**

Please use one form per plant. Attach the form(s) to payment.
 Cost per plant: **\$14.50.**

Given in Memory/Honor of (circle one):

by: _____ Envelope Number

This form may be placed in the offering plate or mailed to the church.

Checks should be made payable to: *"Christ Lutheran Church"* 222 Niantic Rd – Barto, PA 19504. Please **take your** Poinsettia(s) with you on **Christmas Eve** if possible or contact the church office to make arrangements for pickup. Thank you.

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

10/11/2026 10:31 AM

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	Current Period	Year to Date	YTD Prior Year
INCOME			
CONTRIBUTIONS	\$7,327.01	\$90,043.75	\$89,641.75
OTHER FUND CONTRIBUTIONS	2,650.00	10,556.00	7,217.84
INVESTMENT INCOME	23.22	1,185.28	978.26
OTHER INCOME	0.00	0.00	(18.65)
TOTAL INCOME	10,000.23	101,785.03	97,819.20
EXPENSES			
SALARIES			
PASTORAL MINISTRY	\$1,424.23	\$19,984.03	\$38,371.37
OTHER STAFF	4,843.54	34,320.48	31,484.57
Subtotal Salaries	6,267.77	54,304.51	69,855.94
WORSHIP			
MUSIC	0.00	1,268.18	897.42
ORGAN & PIANO MAINTENANCE	0.00	700.33	0.00
WORSHIP SUPPLIES	343.02	2,511.51	2,636.90
Subtotal Worship	343.02	4,480.02	3,534.32
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION			
CURRICULUM MATERIALS	0.00	151.18	0.00
OTHER MINISTRIES	42.00	261.00	261.00
SOCIAL MINISTRY/OUTREACH			
COMMUNITY SERVICE AGENCY	0.00	0.00	51.42
ADVERTISING EXPENSE	19.00	456.40	187.94
STEWARDSHIP	0.00	422.39	523.78
INTERNET EXPENSES	321.42	2,986.28	3,157.32
Subtotal Social Ministry/outreach	340.42	3,865.07	3,920.46
CHURCH ADMINISTRATION			
ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSE	118.20	1,399.12	1,774.26
EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE	0.00	1,227.92	968.25
Subtotal Church Administration	118.20	2,627.04	2,742.51
BUILDING OPERATIONS			
HEAT, ELECTRIC & GAS	663.31	12,537.98	13,449.82
CLEANING SUPPLIES	464.97	4,272.18	3,722.19
REAL ESTATE TAX	0.00	147.98	143.84
BUILDING MAINTENANCE	120.30	8,393.85	8,886.86
Subtotal Building Operations	1,248.58	25,351.99	26,202.71
INSURANCE			
FUND EXPENSES	0.00	7,485.00	7,163.75
	0.00	0.00	21,748.77
TOTAL EXPENSES	8,359.99	98,525.81	135,429.46
EXCESS INCOME/EXPENSES	\$1,640.24	\$3,259.22	(\$37,610.26)

Respectfully submitted
Susan 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.

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 November 2026**

	Acolyte	Lector	Communion Assist	Assisting Minister	Ushers/Greeters
November 1 9:00 a.m.	_____*	Bob Heydt	Sue Hoffman	Terry Flicker	Bob and Lisa Heydt
November 8 9:00 a.m.	_____*	Diane Houck		Denise Hoffman	Ginnie Wilkinson and Roberta Korsak
November 15 9:00 a.m.	_____*	Sue Hoffman		_____*	Ginnie Wilkinson and Roberta Korsak
November 22 9:00 a.m.	_____*	_____*	Nancy Fioriglio	Terry Flicker	_____*
November 29 9:00 a.m.	_____*	Bob Heydt	Nancy Fioriglio	Denise Hoffman	Bob and Lisa Heydt

Altar Guild: Diane and Bruce Houck**Counting Team:** TEAM D – Jim Barr (capt.); Norm Hoffman, Dan Knaub, Gerry Flicker, Marvin Steward

_____ * = Help needed. If you can help, please contact the church office.
 Thank you.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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(WC) = Welcome Center
(S/H) = Social Hall



November 2026



1 All Saints' Sunday 8:30 Coffee & Conversation (W/C) 9:00 Worship / Communion / Pr. Homer Royer preaching 10:00 Coffee & Conversation (W/C) *Turn your clocks back when you go to bed Saturday night!	2 6:30 Property (W/C)	3	4 7:00 Senior Choir	5 7:00 Book Club (W/C)	6	7
8 8:30 Coffee & Conversation (W/C) 9:00 Worship / Pr. David Lutcher preaching 10:00 Coffee & Conversation (W/C) [Social Hall Rented]	9	10 *December Niantic News Articles DUE! 10:00 Quilt Tying (rm. H) 12 noon Lutheran Ladies Lunch at Pizza Como /PC Pub, Pennsburg. Meet in parking lot at 11:30 a.m. or meet at Pizza Como/PC Pub by 12 noon.	11 [Melissa Vacation Day] Answering machine and mail will be checked. 7:00 Senior Choir Veteran's Day	12 [Melissa Vacation Day]	13 [Melissa Vacation Day]	14 [Social Hall Rented]
15 Blessing of the Quilts / Congregational Meeting 8:30 Coffee & Conversation (W/C) 9:00 Worship / Baptisms / Pr. Brad Mellon preaching / Blessing of the Quilts 10:00 Congregational Meeting	16	17 TBD: 7:00 Council (parlor)	18 7:00 Senior Choir	19	20	21
22 Christ the King Sunday 8:30 Coffee & Conversation (W/C) 9:00 Worship / Communion / Pr. Thomas Kochenderfer preaching 10:00 Coffee & Conversation (W/C)	23	24 7:00 p.m. - Ecumenical Thanksgiving Eve Service at Trinity Lutheran, Bechtelsville	25	26 OFFICE CLOSED Thanksgiving Day	27	28
29 First Sunday of Advent 8:30 Coffee & Conversation (W/C) 9:00 Worship / Communion / Pr. David Lutcher preaching 10:00 FUN Event: Light Lunch & assembly of gift bags(W/C) [Social Hall Rented]	30	Dec. 1	Dec. 2 7:00 Senior Choir	Dec. 3	Dec. 4	Dec. 5