

Niantic News

A monthly publication of Christ Lutheran Church
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www.christniantic.com

July 2025

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A Message from the Pastor...

This month, I want to announce something new at Christ Lutheran, a new opportunity for Bible Study. On the first four Wednesdays in July (2, 9, 16, 23), I am going to hold a "Brown Bag Bible Study" in the welcome center. We will meet at noon, and you are invited to bring along a lunch if you wish. It will be a casual discussion-based study. For the weeks in July, we will focus on the Psalms.

The Psalms are a part of the Bible that we are familiar with through worship. They are filled with words of worship, lament, and reflection. This study will offer an opportunity to dive deep into the richness of these poetic scriptures, exploring their meaning, historical context, and relevance to our lives today. They have long been a source of comfort, guidance, and inspiration for believers. Whether expressing heartfelt praise, seeking God's wisdom, or grappling with life's challenges, the Psalms provide a voice for every emotion and season of life. This study will allow us to uncover the depth of God's promises found throughout these sacred texts.

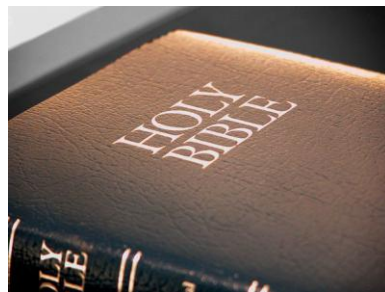
This study is open to everyone. No prior knowledge is required. Please feel free to invite friends, family, and neighbors. Bring along your own Bible or you can borrow one from the church. This time and format are a bit of an experiment, if people enjoy it, we can continue into August and the fall, picking new topics or books as we proceed.

The Psalms remind us that God is with us, whether we're shouting for joy or crying out in sorrow. Through this study, we hope to grow closer to God and deepen our understanding of the scriptures. Join us starting in July, and let's journey together through this extraordinary book of the Bible. I look forward to seeing you on Wednesdays at noon!

In Christ,
Pastor Matt



+



=

**Brown
Bag
Bible
Study**

Official Pastoral Acts

(Baptisms, Funerals, Weddings)

Graveside Inurnment of Rodney Moll
on Saturday, June 14 with Rev. Paul
Bartlett officiating.



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 8th**. 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



**DON'T TAKE A
VACATION
FROM CHURCH**

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.

July Birthdays (*non-member)

- 1 Tanner Willman
- 3 Kole Davidheiser
- 4 Alicia Bauer
- 7 Pr. Matt Finney
- 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

Thank you...

... for all the wonderful donations from your Mother's Day Collection! You donated 155 lbs. to local families in need. The impact of these items are greater than you could imagine! We appreciate all your generosity and continued support! Sincerely,

Diana Hamer, Director of Case Management at Boyertown Multi-Service

QUILT TYING

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



BUT the...

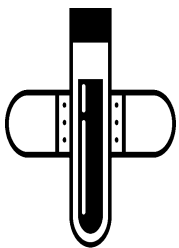
Lutheran Ladies Lunch

will be on

Tuesday, July 8 at 12 noon.

We will be going to Countryside, Rtes. 29 & 100, Emmaus (Shimerville) for a 12 noon lunch.

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



BLOOD DRIVE

BLOOD DONORS WANTED:

Upcoming Keystone-Miller Blood Drives will be held on:

Tuesday, July 1 from 12 – 4:45 p.m. at Boyertown Library, 24 N. Reading Ave. Boyertown

Friday, July 25 from 8 a.m. – 2 p.m. at Linwood Ott Funeral Home, 111 N. Reading Ave. Boyertown

Saturday, July 26 from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. at Calvary UCC, 1231 Rte. 100, Barto

If you would like to donate blood, call Keystone-Miller Blood bank at 1-800-223-6667 to sign-up or log into www.giveapint.org to find the location.

Book Club

The Book Club will be reading the book:

***"When All Is Said"* by Anne Griffin.**

The books are available on the table in the Welcome Center to sign out or you can borrow a copy from a local library, purchase from a bookstore or Amazon.

We will meet on

Wednesday, July 16 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 27
and
Sunday, August 31**

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.

2026 Budget Requests DUE!

The 2026 Budget Requests are DUE to the Finance Committee by Sunday, August 10. If you are a committee or an employee with a budget line, please make sure your request gets in by Sunday, August 10th!



2025 Graduates



Julia Rose Menear, daughter of Alain and Donna Menear, graduated from Duquesne University on May 9, 2025 with a Bachelors in Health Sciences with a minor in Public Health and Psychology. Julia was an active member of the Alpha Gamma Delta Sorority, Pi Kappa Epsilon Fraternity and the Student Health Advisory Council. She was also the photographer for the Duquesne ACHE Men's D1 ice hockey team. While attending college Julia earned certifications from UPMC Mercy, as a Nursing Assistant (NA) and Patient Care Technician (PCT). Julia will be receiving promotion to PCT Specialist in June. Julia will be attending the UPMC Mercy Nursing program in September to pursue her RN degree.

Braden Bartman, son of Kalyn and Bruce Bartman, graduated from Lock Haven University on May 17, 2025 in a Bachelor degree in Political Science. While a student, Braden maintained a 3.5 GPA and was President for 3 years of the college Republican club. He participated in internship with Glenn Thompson U.S. Representative for PA. Braden's future plans include to work in state government and eventually move to the federal level.

Hunter Francisco, son of John and Holly Francisco, will graduate from Upper Perkiomen High School on June 3, 2025. While in high school, Hunter was a member of the water polo team, swim team (district champion in 500 freestyle, 3 time state qualifier), the environmental conservation club, National Honor Society, and the Link Crew. Hunter will be attending Penn State University to major in mechanical engineering.

Chase Bartman, son of Kalyn and Bruce Bartman, will graduate from Boyertown High School on June 6, 2025. While in high school, Chase was a 4 year varsity soccer player, who was also captain of the team in his Junior & Senior years. He was all area 1st team and PAC 1st team. He received the JK Scholarship, Chase will be attending Alvernia University where he will pursue a degree in Physical Therapy. He will play soccer for the Golden Wolves.

Izabel Sandoval, daughter of Dawn and Sergio Sandoval, will graduate from Boyertown High School on June 6, 2025. While in school, Izabel was a member of the Youth and Government for 6 years (President in her senior year); National Honor Society; Green Cord; Tennis; Soccer; Link Crew Leader; HOSA – Future Medical Leader of America; Penn HOSA Foundation Scholarship; BigFuture Ambassador; AP Scholars with Distinction; National Hispanic Recognition Award; and received the Historic Society of Berks County Award for Outstanding Performance in Social Studies. Izabel will be attending Simmons University in Boston, MA to double major in Nursing and Psychology.

*We Congratulate each and everyone 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:

Jelly (grape or strawberry;
pasta & rice sides; canned tuna;
canned chicken; condiments (ex.
Ketchup, mustard etc.); fruit juice

Personal Care Items:

Shampoo; conditioner;
body wash; deodorant

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.

"God's Work, Our Hands"

Sunday, September 7

The **Mercy Ministry Committee & Members** will be assembling Kids Kits for Church World Service after worship on Sunday, September 7.
More information forthcoming.

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:

Angie – a friend of Melissa Seasholtz

Dave Fioriglio – father of Dave Fioriglio

Keith Fok

Margaret Freeman – daughter of Nancy Folk's cousin

Tatsy Fulmer – neighbor of Jim and Kay Barr

Pat Gabel – Bob's wife

Lorraine Gehringer – friend of Charlie & Betty Hoffman

Heather – daughter of Kathy Romich/cousin of
Lisa Heydt

Betty Hoffman

Wilson Hoffman

Crystal Hughes - Friend of Laurie Stofflet

LaVerne (Muck) Moser

Charlie Orner

Pr. Jennifer Phelps – former member at CLC

Todd (Scruffy) Slonaker – cousin of Gerry Flicker
and Denise Hoffman

Tiffany - Nancy Fioriglio's cousin's daughter

Elaine Wolfe – friend of Linda Hoffman

Lori Yostin - co-worker of Terry Flicker

**Death (Family and Friends of...):****Military Deployed to Conflict Area/Serving in the Military*:**

Owen Dietrich – cousin of Lindsey (Riegner)

Mason; Anthony Lester – friend of Lindsey

(Riegner) Mason; Dustin/Lisa Lowery – Jennifer

Lowery-Bomboy's nephew/wife; 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.**

Gerald Flicker (Grandview Manor in Fleetwood);

Charlie Orner (Village at LifeQuest);

Dorothy Willing

Highlights from the April 22, 2025 Council Meeting:

1. Report from Endowment. No proposals submitted for Christian Education. Committee appropriated \$499 for either SafePlace Training, Confirmation Retreat, or Christian Ed programs. Missions given to St. Mark's in Birdsboro, Birdsboro and Beyond. Volunteers are welcome. Motion to approve as written, made by Roxanne Fox and seconded by Keith Folk, motion approved.
2. Synod assembly is the last weekend in May at a new location in Lansdale: deadline to register is April 23.
3. Administrative Assistants Day, April 23. Council signed card and contributed to a gift.
4. Windstream Lease: TerraPact reached out again about taking over the lease. Tabled for this month to be revisited after doing some more investigation.
5. No contact from Church Mutual about cancellation of policy. Other area churches have had their policies cancelled by Church Mutual in recent months.

OLD BUSINESS:

AV Technology Update: System was installed on April 15, 16, and 17 except for camera which is on backorder.

NEW BUSINESS:

Received a thank you card from Melissa expressing appreciation for support at her Mom's passing.

Respectfully submitted,

Pr. Matt



Save-the-Dates!!

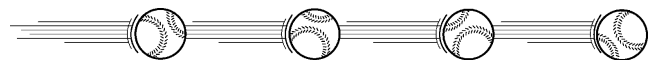
Church Picnic/Outdoor Worship

Please join the FUN Committee for our annual Outdoor Worship service and Church Picnic on **Sunday July 13th** at **Green Lane Park's Pavilion** NEXT to the Stone Lodge. Please plan to arrive at **11:45** for light refreshments and fellowship and the worship service 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.

This year along with the usual yard games and guessing games at the picnic, we will also have a "White Elephant Switcheroo"! Please bring a wrapped gently used or new inexpensive gift to give for the game where presents are picked or switched!

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 Green Lane Park on July 13th.

AND



Reading Phils Game Date Changed to Sunday, August 17 – 5:15 PM

The date of the Reading Phils game has been changed to **Sunday, August 17** for a **5:15 p.m.** game! The Philly Phanatic will be in attendance! Ticket/Parking Cost: Blue Section Seats \$15 & Parking Passes \$9. Invite your family and friends to join us!! Sign-up sheet in the narthex. Money due by Sunday, July 13. Any questions, please contact Nancy or Dave Fioriglio.

Christ Lutheran Church, Niantic
Income and Expense Statement
Consolidated - May 2025

06/18/2025 12:45 PM

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	Current Period	Year to Date	YTD Prior Year
INCOME			
CONTRIBUTIONS	\$10,633.77	\$52,617.97	\$53,411.55
OTHER FUND CONTRIBUTIONS	526.00	2,982.84	2,424.00
INVESTMENT INCOME	220.74	545.57	839.49
OTHER INCOME	0.00	(23.07)	(306.67)
TOTAL INCOME	11,380.51	56,123.31	56,368.37
EXPENSES			
SALARIES			
PASTORAL MINISTRY	\$4,556.57	\$20,935.28	\$23,214.55
OTHER STAFF	3,239.82	16,349.10	17,356.69
Subtotal Salaries	7,796.39	37,284.38	40,571.24
WORSHIP			
MUSIC	34.45	321.18	1,035.89
ORGAN & PIANO MAINTENANCE	0.00	0.00	300.00
WORSHIP SUPPLIES	406.00	1,326.00	1,513.86
Subtotal Worship	440.45	1,647.18	2,849.75
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION			
CURRICULUM MATERIALS	0.00	0.00	34.76
OTHER MINISTRIES	87.00	174.00	136.00
SOCIAL MINISTRY/OUTREACH			
COMMUNITY SERVICE AGENCY	51.42	51.42	0.00
ADVERTISING EXPENSE	25.00	124.97	265.00
STEWARDSHIP	0.00	523.78	400.02
INTERNET EXPENSES	400.46	1,675.20	1,349.58
Subtotal Social Ministry/outreach	476.88	2,375.37	2,014.60
CHURCH ADMINISTRATION			
ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSE	283.53	971.80	690.56
EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE	0.00	831.48	445.91
Subtotal Church Administration	283.53	1,803.28	1,136.47
BUILDING OPERATIONS			
HEAT, ELECTRIC & GAS	307.52	9,956.61	7,488.00
CLEANING SUPPLIES	822.93	2,480.84	1,853.73
REAL ESTATE TAX	0.00	31.07	30.07
BUILDING MAINTENANCE	912.36	1,022.58	542.94
Subtotal Building Operations	2,042.81	13,491.10	9,914.74
INSURANCE			
FUND EXPENSES	16.00	4,784.50	3,849.50
	5,546.38	21,748.77	7,335.91
TOTAL EXPENSES	16,689.44	83,308.58	67,842.97
EXCESS INCOME/EXPENSES	(\$5,308.93)	(\$27,185.27)	(\$11,474.60)

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: Rev. Matthew Finney ~ clcpastor@windstream.net
 Minister of Music: Deborah Matthews ~ debmatth@comcast.net
 Administrative Assistant: Melissa Seasholtz ~ christluthchurch@windstream.net

2025 Congregational Council

President: Steve Novotny Vice President: Dave Fioriglio
 Secretary: Dawn Sandoval Treasurer: Sue Hoffman**
 Assistant Treasurer: Nancy Fioriglio** Financial Treasurer: Kathy Watts**
 e-mail: clcfinancial@windstream.net



Gerry Flicker ☒ Keith Folk ☒ Roxanne Fox
 Bob Heydt ☒ Danny Knaub Roberta Korsak
 Pat Moser Marvin Steward ☒ _____ + (5/24 – 4/25)

(**non-council member / +youth member / ☒ second term)**Ministry Assistants for July 2025**

	Acolyte	Lector	Communion Assist	Assisting Minister	Ushers/Greeters
July 6 9:00 a.m.	_____*	Diane Houck	Sue Hoffman	Terry Flicker	Norm Hoffman and Gerry Flicker
July 13 12:15 a.m. Outdoor Worship	_____*	Heather Moser		Denise Hoffman	Ginnie Wilkinson and Bruce Houck
July 20 9:00 a.m.	_____*	Nancy Fioriglio		Denise Hoffman	Nancy and Dave Fioriglio
July 27 9:00 a.m.	_____*	Rebecca Sandoval		Terry Flicker	Shirley and Merle Deery

Altar Guild: Terry & Gerry Flicker**Counting Team: Team B:** Mike Knaub (capt.), Kathy Watts, Keith Folk, Bob Borneman

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

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<div>  <h1>July 2025</h1>  </div>						
		1	2 12 noon Brown Bag Bible Study (W/C)	3	4 Independence Day Office Closed	5
6 8:30 Coffee & Conversation (W/C) 9:00 Worship / Holy Communion 10:00 Coffee & Conversation (W/C)	7 6:30 Property (W/C)	8 August Niantic News Article Deadline NO Quilt Tying! 11:30 a.m. Ladies meet at church to carpool to a 12 noon lunch at Countryside, Rtes. 100 & 29, Emmaus (Shimerville)	9 12 noon Brown Bag Bible Study (W/C)	10	11 10 AM – 1 PM Pr. Matt's Office Hours	12
13 Outdoor Worship / Church Picnic at Green Lane Park 11:45 Light Refreshments 12:15 Worship at Pavilion at Green Lane Park / Special music by the Houck family 1:00 Church Picnic	14	15 6:30 Cemetery Board (room H) 7:00 Endowment (W/C)	16 12 noon Brown Bag Bible Study (W/C) 7:00 Book Club (W/C)	17	18 10 AM – 1 PM Pr. Matt's Office Hours	19
20 8:30 Coffee & Conversation (W/C) 9:00 Worship / Guest Organist: Joe DiCindio 10:00 Coffee & Conversation (W/C)	21	22 7:00 Council (parlor)	23 12 noon Brown Bag Bible Study (W/C)	24	25	26
27 8:30 Coffee & Conversation (W/C) 9:00 Worship / Hymn Sing 10:00 Coffee & Conversation (W/C)	28	29	30	31	August 1	August 2
Pr. Matt on vacation from July 24 – August 2.						