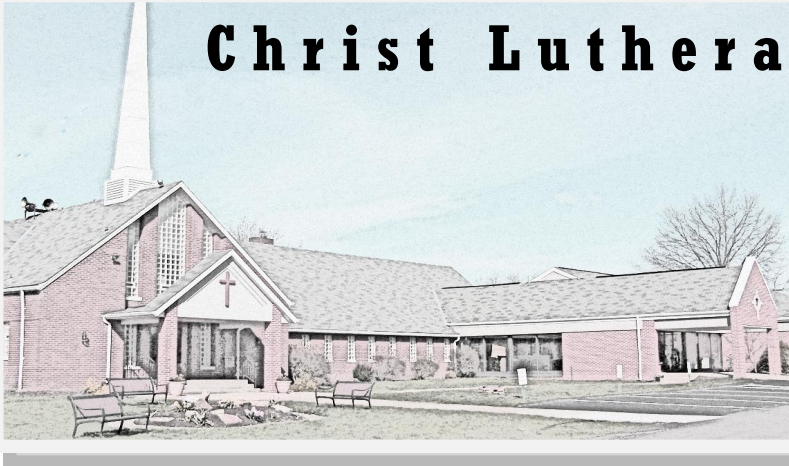


# Christ Lutheran Lamplighter



*Celebrating 90 years in Forest Hills*

Christ Lutheran Church  
400 Barclay Avenue  
Forest Hills, Pennsylvania 15221

**MARCH APRIL 2024**

**Contact Information**  
Phone: 412-271-7173

Web: [www.christlutheranfhh.org](http://www.christlutheranfhh.org)

Facebook: Christ Lutheran  
Churchfhh

## Staff

Pastor-The Reverend Ronald Breight  
[pastor@christlutheranfhh.org](mailto:pastor@christlutheranfhh.org)

Vicar-Vincent Mroz

Assistant to Pastor  
Barb Mitchell  
[assistant@christlutheranfhh.org](mailto:assistant@christlutheranfhh.org)

Office Assistant  
Theresa Frankiewicz  
[officeassist@christlutheranfhh.org](mailto:officeassist@christlutheranfhh.org)

## Officers and Committees

President: Jim Law

Treasurer: Cal Eggers

Secretary: Barb Mitchell

Financial Secretary: Dee Law

Elders: Cal Eggers, Glenn Filler, John  
Crawford, Richard Mueller

Trustees: Lee Caton, Frank Elaschat,  
Lynn Fisher, Dave Wible, Megan  
Elaschat

Education: Annette Bowen, Lori  
Schraver, Gloria Stern

Finance: Cal Eggers, Michael Lis,  
Stephanie Lydon, Barry Schoenthal,  
Richard Mueller

Outreach: Ruth Hirko, Jonathan  
Breight, Georgia Hanley, Kathy Kaclik

Endowment Committee: Cal Eggers,  
Glenn Filler, Kathy Sourbeer

## Lead Us Not Into Temptation

This newsletter finds us smack-dab in the middle of Lent. Resisting temptation is a signature feature of this holy season. The 40-day temptation of Jesus by Satan in the wilderness signals the beginning of Lent, and the 40 days of Lent (Ash Wednesday to "Palm Saturday" minus the Sundays) is patterned after that time Jesus was tempted.

We have all sorts of ideas about temptation, from the seven deadly sins to eating meat on Fridays. What is the real gist of temptation? It's not so much that we don't give in. We all know we will. Eventually. We are not Jesus, and we will all succumb to temptation. The real temptation test comes after we have denied, erred, fallen, indulged, cheated, caved and abandoned. The devil knows we are easy pickings. And that we are. It's our current, natural state. We need not be so surprised at this!

When we have sinned, will we return to the Lord? THAT is the temptation. We will consider ourselves self-condemned and irredeemable? Will we flee from the face of the Lord never to return, like Judas? Then we have failed. On the contrary, if we, like Peter who denied knowing Jesus and the other disciples who abandoned the Lord in Gethsemane, remember the Lord's mercy is forever and for all, and return to the Lord, we are proven worthy.

When you do the laundry, all sorts of things are hiding in the pockets of your clothes. Money, receipts, prescriptions, Kleenex, pens, etc. If those go through the wash, clothes may not come out so clean. Especially if the pen makes it to the dryer. Lent is a time to come before the Lord and empty all our pockets and be washed clean. We empty out all our fears, doubts, frustrations, unanswered questions, complaints, and failures. Jesus exchanges them for perfect and complete forgiveness and cleansing of our souls. If Lent teaches us how to do that, then it has been a success! God grant this to us all.

In the commitment of Christ,

Pastor Ron Breight

Financial Snapshot July 1, 2023 to January 31, 2024	Actual	Budgeted
Offerings and other Income	\$135,066	\$147,280
Missions	\$3,600	\$3,600
Staff	\$71,249	\$71,288
Operations	\$64,874	\$73,341
Total Expenses	\$139,723	\$148,229
<b>Net Gain/(Loss)</b>	<b>-\$4,657</b>	<b>-\$949</b>

## NEWS FROM THE FLOCK

The **Prayer Partners** program set up by the Education Committee officially kicked off on Ash Wednesday. Fourteen participants are currently involved. You are still welcome to participate. Just let a member of the Education Committee know that you are interested. You will then be matched up with a Prayer Partner. Be the person that lifts another up in prayer.

Congratulations to our beloved organist, **Doug Skalka**, on his 25th Anniversary at Christ Lutheran Church. Doug started at Christ Lutheran on March 14, 1999.

Doug grew up in Monroeville, where he began private piano lessons at an early age, practicing on the old player piano in the basement. After several years, he switched to organ. He began his church organist career at Rosecrest Lutheran Church in Monroeville in his late teens. He auditioned at Trinity Lutheran Church in Swissvale and eventually became organist there in the 1980's and continued

until the church closed. He became organist at Christ Lutheran Church in 1999 after substituting

for a short period of time. He and his wife Tina reside in Pitcairn. They have three children and nine grandchildren. He is now retired from FedEx Services, where he worked for 31 years as a Systems Specialist supporting Pickup and Delivery systems and Package Routing Systems for the FedEx Ground operating company. He enjoys playing organ and piano in his new music room, spending time with grandchildren, going to the theater and symphony, golfing, and traveling for vacation and visiting family and friends.



### Love liturgical music? Want to raise your voice in song?

The Pittsburgh Lutheran Chorus is looking for new members. They rehearse every Thursday at 6:30pm at Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, 237 37th St., Pittsburgh, PA 15201



This is the quilt that our quilting group made in February 2024. Anyone can join in to help make these quilts that are donated to the local veterans. See Dee Law if interested in helping.

# Women's Service Guild

**ALTAR GUILD** –Contact Ruth Hirko about serving on the altar committee. They set up for Holy Communion, change altar parameters, launder the communion napkins, etc. New members are needed.

**HOTEL TOILETRY ITEMS**–The WSG distributes hotel toiletry items to veterans in need. There is a bin in the library for donations or see Dee Law for more information.



**TELEPHONE & E-MAIL COMMITTEE** – If you know a member's new address, phone or e-mail address, please give it to Barb Mitchell or Rosalie Filler. If you move or change information, please remember to notify the office.



**STAMPS** – Remember to slit open the bottom of the envelope, cut the envelope in half and give the canceled stamps to Lois Frerking or put them in the box in the library. These stamps enable the Canadian Bible Society to raise funds to purchase Bibles for prisoners and foreign missions to get Bibles in their native language.



**PRAYER SHAWL/LAP ROBE MINISTRY**– Even though many of us cannot physically comfort a loved one or friend, we can still do so by giving them a shawl or lap robe. These were lovingly made by women of the congregation. Contact Linda Bright if you know someone who may need one or enjoy getting one.

**ALTAR FLOWERS** –The flower chart is posted on the bulletin board in the narthex of the church. Please check the chart for available dates. The cost of the flowers is \$40. Make checks payable to WSG and put check in locked mailbox by the far office door.



**BOX TOPS EDUCATION** The Box Tops for Education has been phased out and your grocery bill is now being scanned for Box Tops items that you have purchased. There is a bin in the library for the Box Tops for Education. Give Lois Frerking your grocery receipt to scan. Monies collected goes to Redeemer Lutheran Church school. See Lois for more information.



**PORTALS OF PRAYER**–Current and back issues of the Portals of Prayer are available on the table in the library. Feel free to take a copy or two for friends or neighbors you feel could benefit from these.

**SHUT-IN CARD MINISTRY.** – The new packet is ready. Included is a mailing schedule, names, addresses and birthdates. A book of stamps is being provided by Thrivent Care in Community. Contact Kathy Sourbeer if you wish to participate.



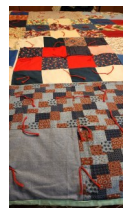
**MITE BOXES**–This loose change in your wallet or pocket can be put to good use. Monies collected from these Mite Boxes enable the Lutheran Women Missionary League to support a variety of their Mission projects. See the article in the LWML magazine. One mission per month is featured in this Lamplighter.

**HELPING HANDS**–When there is a funeral luncheon or special occasion, women are needed to set up and prepare things, etc. Contact Rosalie Filler to become part of this very important ministry in our church.



**RECYCLING**–The following items are being collected for Lutheran Women Missionary Guild fundraiser: Ink Jet cartridges, laser jet cartridges, cameras and video cameras, camcorders, cell phones, smart watches, game consoles, video games, pagers, MP3 Players, Ipads, Ipods, e-book readers, tablets, Kindles, PDAs laptops, GPS devices, radar detectors, lithium batteries and chargers. There is a flyer on the Fellowship Hall bulletin board, and the box is in the library. See Linda Bright for more details.

**QUILTING** –Will be held on March 12 and 26 and April 9 and 30 at 9am. No experience necessary. It is like sewing on a button - in and out and tie two knots. We are in need of old king and queen size mattress pads (for batting) top and bottom sheets for the back. If twin size sheets are donated they will be pieced together to make 64x84 back. Regular batting material is also greatly appreciated. Pictured is the latest quilt made for the veterans. Contact Dee Law if you will be able to attend.





**2023-2025 MISSION GRANT NO. 4  
FORTIFYING FAITH IN THOSE WITH VISION IMPAIRMENT  
LUTHERAN BRAILLE WORKERS \$100,000**

There are millions of people throughout the world who are blind or visually impaired and are seeking to strengthen their faith as they cope with isolation and deal with physical, mental, and spiritual struggles. They desire to be able to read the words of the Lord themselves, so that they can feel and learn about the love of God and the salvation of Jesus. Even with advancements in technology, they still have difficulties accessing scriptural and theologically-related reading materials. It is estimated that approximately 95% of the 253 million people around the world with moderate to severe vision impairment are unchurched, yet when it comes to ministering to this community, there are fewer than a handful of Christian organizations reaching out to provide help. Lutheran Braille Workers (LBW) continues to provide Bibles and other Christian materials in braille or specialized large print to help this under-reached population feel connected to the family of Christ and grow in their faith. Those who have received and benefited from LBW materials have shared that without these volumes, they might never have learned to read and obtain basic life skills needed to survive in the world today. Lutheran Braille Workers has been freely supplying materials in large print and braille to people who are visually impaired for over eighty years. This grant will help with the formatting, producing, and distributing of fifty to one hundred new Scripture-based materials and add to the LBW collection of resources to meet the spiritual and emotional needs of recipients with vision impairments around the world. Some of the materials include Lutheran Hour Ministries Connect Booklets and American missionary books from Mission Nation Publishing. There is also cooperation with other LCMS partners, such as Concordia Publishing House and the LCMS Synodical Headquarters to gain access to more titles as needed. This grant will develop and provide materials beyond the Bible that will help Christians develop and strengthen their faith.



# **FAMILY EASTER ESCAPE ROOM**

**Hunt eggs with the Easter Bunny!**

**Crafts ♦ Snacks ♦ Games**

**- and -**

***Escape the Easter Tomb Room with Jesus!***

**March 23 9:30—Noon**

**Christ Lutheran Church  
400 Barclay Ave.  
Forest Hills, PA 15221**

**Call  
412-271-7173  
to register for this  
FREE family event!**

## Important Dates in March-April 2024

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

March 3-Handbell Choir Rehearsal 11:15am  
 March 4--Choir Rehearsal 6:30pm  
 March 10-Daylight Saving Time begins  
 March 10-Handbell Choir Rehearsal 11:15am  
 March 10-Last day to order Easter Flowers  
 March 12-Education Committee 6:30pm  
 March 17-Handbell Choir Rehearsal 11:15am  
 March 18-Choir Rehearsal 6:30  
 March 19-First Day of Spring  
 March 19-Council Meeting 7pm  
 March 23-Easter Escape Room Family Event 9:30-noon  
 March 24-Handbells Choir Rehearsal 11:15am  
 March 25-Choir Rehearsal 6:30pm  
 March 28-Maundy Thursday  
 March 29-Good Friday  
 March 31-Easter Sunday  
 April 15- Deadline for May Lamplighter  
 April 16-Council Meeting 7pm  
 April 18-Elders' Meeting 4pm  
 April 25-Outreach Committee 7pm



## Church Service Times

Sunday

Sunday- 10 am Divine Service

Wednesdays-Lenten Midweek Dinner and Service

Dinner 5:45pm Service 7pm

Maundy Thursday-7pm

Good Friday-7pm

Easter Sunrise-6am

Easter Day-10am

Adult Bible Studies

8:45am-9:45am

Sunday School/Confirmation

Sunday-11:30am



# Addresses for our Shut-Ins

Lauretta Critchlow  
Juniper Village at  
Forest Hills  
107 Fall Run Road  
Apt. 233  
Pittsburgh, PA 15221

NOTE: Lauretta will be moving to  
Concordia Wexford in the near  
future. Will update address when  
received

Catherine Ertman  
3000 Locust Ave. Apt 319  
Braddock Hills, PA 15221

Robert & Bette Hamill, Jr.  
1413 Maple Ave.  
Turtle Creek, PA 15145

Geraldine Hildenbrand  
Concordia of Monroeville  
4363 Northern Pike  
Rm 321W  
Monroeville, PA 15146

Robert & Audrey Karpinsky  
203 Stockton Ridge  
Cranberry, PA 16066-2261

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

Florence Kost  
Rosecrest Assisted Living  
Room 110  
1000 Graham Way  
Mars, PA 16046

Bob Lindke  
2190 Ipnar Road  
Irwin, PA 15642

Carol Logsdon  
Point Pleasant Asstd.Living  
Room 331  
120 Mossie Blvd.  
North Versailles, PA 15137

Russell Long  
606 Filmore Ave.  
Pittsburgh PA 15221

Carol Sapanara  
7830 Morris St.  
Verona, PA 15147

Barb Urban  
The Waters of Wexford  
210 Fowler Road  
Warrendale, PA 15086

Ann Tubbs  
41 Central Avenue  
N. Versailles, PA 15137-1101

Jim and Evelyn Wise  
Sheridan @ Bethel Park  
2000 Cool Spring Drive  
Room 355  
Bethel, Park, PA 15234

Lydia Yates  
Concordia of Monroeville  
4363 Northern Pike  
Room 110  
Monroeville, PA 15146

Anyone wishing  
to be added to  
the pastoral  
visitation  
schedule please  
call the church  
office at  
412-271-7173.



## March Prayer Petition

"For God did not give a spirit of timidity, but a spirit  
of power, of love, of self discipline." 1 Timothy 1:7

## April Prayer Petition

"I know that my Redeemer lives and that in the end  
He will stand upon the earth"  
Job 19:25

# Celebrating in March-April 2024

## Anniversaries

3/16 Eric & Devera Hoblak  
3/18 Jayne & Paul Simpson  
  
4/7 William & Linda Hite  
4/21 Russell & Judith Long  
4/23 James & Evelyn Wise



## Birthdays

4/1 Joyce Purucker  
4/3 Amanda Breight  
4/4 Kevin Hanley  
4/4 Jim Schorr  
4/2 Gunner Kiester  
4/5 Makayla Schriver  
4/11 Emily Pollitt  
4/13 Julia Stoner  
4/18 Nancy Johnson  
4/21 Lydia Yates  
4/23 Erica Berthoud  
4/23 Janice Polidora  
4/28 John Crawford

3/2 Georgianna Hanley  
3/9 Ann Tubbs  
3/15 Florence Kost  
3/17 Robert Brecht  
3/17 Jordan Stephens  
3/20 Roger Barnes  
3/22 Timothy Galvin  
3/25 Michael Lis  
3/27 Bette Hamill  
3/30 Paul Simpson

**Check out these upcoming events**

**Wednesday Evening Lenten Services**

will be held each Wednesday during Lent at 7pm

preceded by dinner at 5:45pm. Services will be held on the following days:

March 6, March 13, March 20

Menus are as follows:

March 6-Pizza and Salad

March 13-Pulled Pork, Potato Salad and Cole Slaw

March 20-Stew, Crusty Bread, Cole Slaw

We are once again collecting the brown pill bottles for the McKeesport Lions Club. Please remove the labels and wash them out. There must be cap for each bottle and no vitamin bottles will be accepted. Thank you for helping with this ongoing project. Please put them in the box in the library.



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**MARCH 10,  
2024**

**EASTER FLOWERS**



If you would like to help decorate our church for Easter morning, and then have a lovely plant to take home with you, please fill in this form, along with the amount due and give to Dee Law. The last day to order will be Sunday, March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024. You may take your flowers with you after the 10 a.m. service on Easter Sunday. Checks are payable to CLC/WSG.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ I would like to give my flowers to shut-ins

Flowers	Amount	Total Cost	In honor/memory of, or thankfulness for: (optional)
Palm Plants (4 needed for Altar)		@ \$20.00	
Lilies, White		@ \$11.00	
Daffodils		@ \$10.00	
Tulips, Yellow		@ \$10.00	
Tulips, Red		@ \$10.00	
Tulips, Pink		@ \$10.00	
Tulips, Purple		@ \$10.00	
Hyacinths, White		@ \$10.00	
Hyacinths, Purple		@ \$10.00	
Hyacinths, Pink		@ \$10.00	
Hydrangeas, Pink		@ \$20.00	
Hydrangeas, Blue		@ \$20.00	
Azalea		@ \$20.00 =	
Mums		@ \$13.00 =	
Total		<b>Total Cost</b>	

# Serving Christ in March and April 2024



## Altar Guild

March: Lori Schriver April: Gloria Stern



		WORSHIP ASSISTANT	LECTOR	ACOLYTE
<a href="#">3/3</a>		Richard Mueller		Makayla Schriver
3/6	Lenten Service	Barry Schoenthal	Gloria Stern	
3/10		Cal Eggers	Tatia O'Connor	Julia Stoner
3/13	Lenten Service	Richard Mueller	Gloria Stern	
3/17		John Crawford	Tammy Donaldson	Georgia Lindholm
3/20	Lenten service	John Crawford	Gloria Stern	
3/24	Palm Sunday	Richard Mueller	Gloria Stern	Julia Stoner
3/28	Maundy Thursday	John Crawford	Tatia O'Connor	Conner Schriver
3/29	Good Friday	Cal Eggers	Gloria Stern	Conner Schriver
3/31 6am	Easter Sunrise			Meghan Elaschat
3/31 11am	Easter Day	Richard Mueller	Gloria Stern	
4/7		John Crawford	Tatia O'Connor	Georgia Lindholm
4/14		Barry Schoenthal	Tammy Donaldson	Ryder Giovanetti
4/21		Richard Mueller	Gloria Stern	Makayla Schriver
4/28		Cal Eggers	Gloria Stern	Conner Schriver

Please contact the church office by Friday at 10am at 412-271-7173 if you cannot fulfill the duty to which you have been assigned or if you could volunteer to fill in on any of the blank dates. If you are able to volunteer for any of these services, please let Theresa know either by calling the church office or via email at

# HE IS RISEN!