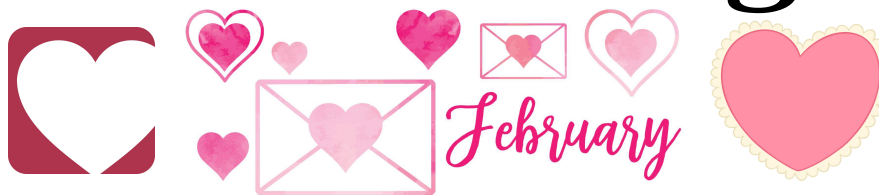




Christ Evangel

Volume 62, Issue 2, 2026
Christ United Methodist Church
1020 South Valley Forge Rd
Lansdale, PA 19446
215-855-1643
secretary@cumclansdale.org



Spaghetti Dinner

SATURDAY
Feb. 7th
4:00 - 6:30PM



at Christ United Methodist Church

1020 S. Valley Forge Road • Lansdale • 215-855-1643 • www.cumclansdale.org

All-You-Can-Eat!

Spaghetti with Homemade Meatballs & Sauce • Rolls & Butter
Garden Salad • Beverages & Delicious Desserts



**Ticket Sales
& Advanced
Reservations**

Sunday, Jan. 18th, 25th & Feb. 1st

or call 215-855-1643

Make your reservations by February 1st

\$16

Adults

\$14

Seniors (62)

Youth (9-12)

\$10

Kids (4-8)

3 & Under-FREE

Advanced Reservations for 4:30pm or earlier are \$1 less

Great Food with Great Company for a Great Cause!

**FREE
BABYSITTING!**
Children Ages: 4th Grade
and Younger
4pm-6pm
Only

• Couples' Seating
• Family Section
• Group Seating

TAKE-OUT MEALS
Available
Starting at
3:00pm

Gluten-Free, Vegan, and Dairy-Free Spaghetti & Meatballs Available!
Just mention this when you make your reservations by February 1st!

Proceeds benefit the Christ United Methodist Church Youth Group
& their Youth Mission Trips



FROM THE PASTOR

Reverend Zachary Hopple



There is a saying, “attitude determines altitude.” It’s the idea that your outlook or your mindset has a huge impact on your success and the potential of what you can achieve. I don’t want to talk about prosperity gospel, but I think there is some truth in this saying. Our attitude can control more about our lives than what we might think.

Attitude is the way we think about things, and it often is reflected in our behavior and how we express ourselves to others. But it also has an impact on how we view the world around us. Max Lucado states in his book, *Tame Your Thoughts*, “We don’t always get what we want in life, but we often get what we expect...if we expect that the day will be bad, it will be. If we expect that traffic will put us in a bad mood, it will. If, however, we expect that our loving God is up to something good in the world and his plans include us, then those plans will soon be clear.”

When I was a kid in youth group, I memorized a verse that I still remember to this day. It might be slightly watered down from what some translations may have, but the scripture is Philippians 2:5. “Your attitude should be like Jesus’.” (And yes, I still remember the motions that we put to these words.) Paul talks about our attitude and our thoughts a lot. In this verse Paul reminds us that our Christ is our example, the one that we follow as his disciples. He continues to say that Jesus is God, yet he gave up everything to serve us and die on the cross for us. He set aside all things for us and so we should have the same mindset.

A few chapters later Paul talks about making sure that we think about things that are good. He says, “finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things” (Philippians 4:8). Because what we focus on and what we think about regularly affects our attitudes.

We may not be able to stop every negative thing from happening to us, but if we focus on the positive in every situation, we will handle it differently than if we only focused on the negative. If we focus on forgiveness, love, and kindness throughout each day, when we are faced with difficult situations we will more often than not respond in those ways. But if we find ourselves focusing too much on pain, anger, and hatred time and time again, most likely that is how we will respond when difficult (and maybe even not so difficult) situations arise.

So what is it that you want to think about? What is it that you want to focus on? If it were up to Paul, we would only focus on Jesus and the good things that come from him. I know that is not always possible, but it is something to strive for. I want to encourage you to start small. Get a notebook or start a note on your phone or device and write down two positive, good things, or something you are thankful for each day. Don’t repeat what you write down. Spoiler alert: after a while you will run out of obvious and you will really need to start looking. The more you look for the positive things around you, the more you will see them, even in the most minute of ways. And you will find that slowly your attitude will become more and more positive and hopefully, more and more like that of Jesus.



Men's Breakfast Group meets the second Wednesday of each month at the West Main Diner in Lansdale, PA at 8:30 AM. For more information, contact the church office.



Deborah Circle **March** Meeting: Monday, March 9th, 11:30 AM

The Deborah circle will not be meeting in February but will be having our usual lunch meeting on March 9 at 11:30 in Fellowship Hall, Room 106.

We have several activities we need to make plans for and we will be discussing the indoor yard sale on April 18th from 9:00 to 1:00. We will need some help in the kitchen and donations of baked goods. Bring a sandwich or salad and a beverage.

We will also be collecting cotton socks for the Code Blue Shelters in Lansdale during the month of February. A basket will be in the narthex for the next few weeks. Any questions please call Jean Davis at 267-218-2569 or Gail Scott at 215-368-0476. In case of inclement weather, we will contact you if the meeting needs to be cancelled or postponed. See you then. Bring a friend!

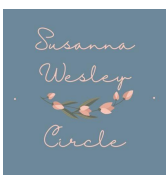
Cooking for Manna

February 12th, 2026, 6:30 PM



Once a month, our group of volunteers come together to cook a meal for Manna on Main Street, a soup kitchen/food pantry located in Lansdale. We spend about 1-1.5 hours prepping meals that feed approximately 90 people. Meal prep tasks include washing and chopping vegetables or fruit, shredding chicken, cooking pasta, and assembling the meal. Folks of all ages are invited to help the group prepare the meal, so feel free to bring a friend or family members to help. This is a great way for youth to earn volunteer hours. Children are welcome, but must be supervised and assisted. The cooking typically gets underway the first Thursday of every month in Room 110 (Kitchen) at 6:30 PM.

For more information, please contact Kristi Weatherwax at kdcreative@aol.com.



SWC: Hymn sing at Harborview Rehab & Care Center on Thursday, Feb. 26th

Susanna Wesley Circle enjoyed an After Christmas Dinner on January 8th, 2026. We had 25 attendees and had a delicious meal at Rey Azteca in East Norriton. We enjoyed dessert and fellowship at the home of Mark and Nadene Stauffer. Check out the pictures at the end of the evangel!

On Thursday, February 26th we are planning on leading a hymn sing at Harborview Rehab and Care Center at 25 West Fifth Street in Lansdale. Residents at this Care Facility do not have many visitors and they will really enjoy our visit and the hymn sing. We are planning on sharing some snacks and fellowship with the residents after our hymn sing. Please plan to join us at 7 PM. There will be a sign up genius on the church website. Join and spread some cheer.

Kaleidoscope Book Group

Ladies, we would love to have you join us for Christian fellowship. We meet every Tuesday at 12:30 PM in the Lounge and via Zoom. We read and discuss books weekly. We also spend time in fellowship and prayer. Contact Becky at 215-896-4964 for the Zoom link or any questions.





Stitching Sisters

Join us on Thursday, Feb. 12th from 10 AM - noon in the fellowship hall!

Caregivers Support Group

Are you a caregiver for someone in your life? You may care for them in your home or theirs, in a facility, or remotely, if they live at a distance. There are commonalities to caregiving, which can be found in a group setting. Our church's caregivers support group meets monthly on Zoom, typically on the second Friday of each month at 10 AM. If you would like to be a part of this group, where you can find comfort in hearing the stories of others, contact marge.kramer@cumclansdale.org or 215.429.8881 for more information and the Zoom link.



Friendly Seniors Cook for Code Blue: Wednesday, February 18th, 11:30 AM

Are you ready for the cold, wind and ice of this winter to be over? Then you can imagine how the homeless in our community must feel! We are glad to help Trinity Lutheran Church provide a warm meal and personal care items for those without a permanent home!

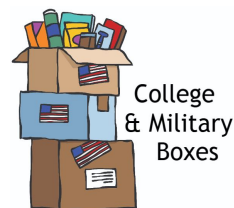
Please join the CUMC Friendly Seniors on Wednesday, February 18th at 11:30 AM in the fellowship hall as we prepare a meal for the Code Blue program. Many hands will make light work of the chopping, measuring & stirring. We will also pack individual personal care bags with items like chapstick, hand warmers, granola bars, tissues, etc.

Invite a family member or friend to come along and help in this worthwhile project that can change lives! Please sign up at the kiosk in the narthex or online if you plan to attend & bring along a snack or sandwich for yourself to enjoy before cooking.



College Boxes

We have about 24 college students that we will be sending college boxes to the week of February 15th. If you can help us with items for the boxes, we will be collecting them to pack the boxes on February 15th during the Sunday School hour at 9:45 AM. We need popcorn, hot chocolate, trail mix, nuts, gum, dried fruit, granola bars, pretzels, goldfish, cookies, cracker candy, and any valentine's fun. (We DON'T need any Rice Krispy Treats. We have plenty already) Please put the goodies in the box in the lobby marked college boxes. THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR HELPING WITH THIS MISSION! I know our students love getting these treats and the prayers from their church family.



Save the date for our next exercise program!

Our friends from the Montgomery County Office on Aging will be back to bring us this new class, the Arthritis Foundation Exercise Program. **You do not need to have an arthritis diagnosis to attend this class.** This class is beneficial for all!

This program is a 13-week series featuring low-impact exercises designed to improve range-of-motion, increase endurance and reduce joint pain. Participants will have the opportunity to use range of motion equipment including hand weights, resistance loops and Pilates balls.

Join us Fridays, April 17th through July 10th (no class June 19th and July 3rd) from 11:30 AM – 12:30 PM. Watch for a sign up as the date approaches.

MISSION of the Month February 2026

February Mission of the Month: Fostering Hope of Montgomery County

Fostering Hope is a volunteer-run, donation-based, 501(c)(3) organization that serves the foster care community. Their mission is to empower youth experiencing foster care, nurture families, and restore dignity to every child they serve. Their goals are to reduce the barriers that stand in the way of people opening their hearts and homes to fostering and to make the transition into the foster care system less traumatic for children. They provide free resources to foster families, kinship care families, pre- and post-adoptive families, biological families on safety plans with their local child welfare office, and young adults who have recently aged out. Through comprehensive support, advocacy, and compassionate care, they are committed to creating a world where every child experiencing foster care feels valued, cherished, and equipped to thrive.



Fostering Hope Montgomery County is where it all began! Fostering Hope was dreamed up by 2 foster moms who saw a need when they received their first foster placements and decided they wanted to be a support system for all other foster families and the children in their care. What began in their hearts and minds soon moved to a storage unit in Limerick, PA. After building a team of passionate women, working closely with Montgomery County Office of Children & Youth, Fostering Hope grew and expanded. Fostering Hope's original and main chapter remains in Montgomery County, with their Foster-Share Closet located at 3277 W. Ridge Pike, C301, Pottstown, PA 19464. PLEASE NOTE: They are always accepting any good to new quality donations of baby gear, clothing, toys, books, etc. at this location.

During the month of February, Christ UMC's Mission of the Month offering collection will support Fostering Hope's Bags of Hope initiative. When a child enters foster care, it can be a scary and confusing time. Many times they come to their temporary foster homes with nothing but the clothes on their backs. A Bag of Hope offers a small gift to these children to ease some of that fear and uncertainty. Each bag contains the basic necessities needed when entering a new home- pajamas, hygiene products (toothbrush, toothpaste, shampoo), comfort items (stuffed animals, blankets), and age-appropriate books, toys, and school supplies.

To learn more about Fostering Hope Montgomery County, visit their website at www.fosteringhopepa.org

Food Drive Collection, 2026

Jan -	Apr -	Jul -	Oct -
Feb -	May -	Aug -	Nov -
Mar -	Jun -	Sep -	Dec -



Upcoming Grief Support at Christ UMC

Healing from loss is a journey. There is no "right way" to grieve, and grief cannot be rushed. Everyone experiences grief differently, but you'll find many grieving people are facing the same struggles. Grief is a journey that shouldn't be traveled alone—others who've gone before you can help.

If you are dealing with the loss of a loved one, join us for these grief support events:

Loss of a Spouse: March 18, 2026 1:30 to 3:30 PM, no charge for this one time program

GriefShare: 13 week cycle March 25–June 17, 2026, \$20 registration fee (covers all 13 weeks), scholarships are available



Watch our church website, www.cumclansdale.org for registration information.

These programs are open to the community—Please extend an invitation to those you know who have experienced a loss.

Thank You's from Oak Park Elementary School!

During the holidays, we as a church feel the hustle and bustle as we work to bring the Christmas spirit to everyone within our church as well as in the community around our church. Here are thank you's from various people for all the work that you as a church have been doing this holiday season!

- To Jean Davis, Nancy Albacker, and the Christ United Methodist Church community: Thank you so much for helping Oak Park Elementary School families in need this holiday. At Oak Park we try to support the whole child and build supportive relationships with families. With your help, we were able to offer gifts and food to numerous families at the holidays to help them celebrate together as a family.
- We are very thankful for all the gifts you provided for our son. He is so happy. We appreciate everything you do and we hope you have an amazing Christmas. Sincerely, Oak Park parents
- I really appreciate your beautiful gift. It made my kids and family happy. Happy Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. From, Oak Park Family
- Thank you so much for the gift cards.
- Thanks a lot for the Christmas gifts assistance that you do for us every year. I appreciate it.
- Thank you for your support of our student at Oak Park. The gift boxes, including handmade items, toys, food, and gift cards are a blessing to our family. We appreciate the hard work and care that went into making the boxes. It's really making a difference for us this year, and it means a lot to feel connected and supported by our community members. Thank you to you and all our community helpers who helped make this difference possible for us this year; we are truly grateful. I hope for peace and healing for you and your families this holiday season. Best, a Grateful Oak Park Family
- Thank you so much for the gifts for the kids, we are positive the kids will be very happy and thankful for all the gifts you guys sent when they open it on Christmas! It means a lot to the family for the help and thank you again! Merry Christmas!
- Merry Christmas and happy holidays. Wish all happiness to you and to your family and to everyone one you love.
- It is with pleasure and gratitude that we received the gift cards over the holidays. They brought lots of joy to our family. Thank you again for everything. Sincerely, Oak Park family
- We are very grateful to the families for their acts of love and kindness in bringing thousands of smiles to our children. We wish many blessings for each one of you. 😊

Dear Community Helpers,

Thank you so much for the lovely and thoughtful Christmas packages and food. We appreciate everything + the gift cards are so generous and will go towards feeding our family. We really appreciate the extra help, it makes us feel safe + supported. We value our community friends who work so hard and volunteer their time.

MAY THE SPIRIT OF
Christmas
BE WITH YOU
THROUGHOUT THE
new year!

Many thanks
+ Blessings



- Oak Park
Family





Older Adult in the Driver's Seat: Staying Safe on the Road as You Age
Join us as the Montgomery County Office on Aging brings us this no charge program. No registration is required.

We'll be in the fellowship hall on Wednesday, February 25th at 11 AM. Please enter at the fellowship hall entrance--this entrance is at the first corner you drive around as you enter the parking lot. If you face the building from the parking lot, it is the left-most set of double-doors.

Happy New Year from Preschool Express!

Our little ones are having a blast kicking off 2026 with lots of cozy, sweet fun! Last week we enjoyed learning all about what animals do in winter with a science hibernation day! We built our own blanket forts and sculpted winter animal habitats out of tinfoil. Our kiddos are excited for more winter fun as they learn to build igloos with sugar cubes, grow snowflake crystals in a jar, and paint with ice cubes! Miss Mel has been leading the gym class jubilee with indoor balloon tennis games, scooter soccer practice, and winter themed obstacle courses! Next week we will celebrate Laura Numeroff's story *If You Give a Pig a Pancake* by wearing our PJ's to school and making pancakes for snack time!



We are also excited to share our enrollment information for next year very soon! We are so blessed to start another wonderful year of learning and love!



FINANCIAL REPORT



Christ United Methodist Church Profit & Loss Budget Performance Dec. 2025

	Dec 2025	YTD
Total Revenue	\$ 56,274.07	\$ 569,112.28
Expenditures		
Total 4000 Missions	\$ 8,483.88	\$ 102,517.31
Total 5000 Programs	\$ 5,554.93	\$ 31,809.41
Total 6000 Salaries and Benefits	\$ 29,154.90	\$ 345,461.13
Total 7000 Property, Maintenance & Utility	\$ 4,887.99	\$ 98,208.97
Total Expenditures	\$ 48,081.70	\$ 577,996.82
Net Operating Revenue	\$ 8,192.37	-\$ 8,884.54

Dear Members and Friends of CUMC,

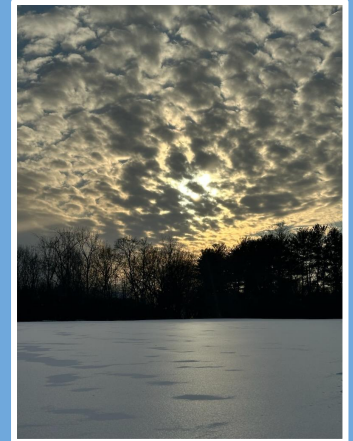
Shown above is a summary of our church financial report for the month of December and Year-To-Date. Operating Budget income for December was \$56,274 and expenses were \$48,082, giving a surplus for the month of \$8,192. For 2025, we ended the year with an \$8,885 deficit in our Operating Budget.

We thank you for your continued financial support of our church and its ministries.

CUMC Finance Committee



Friendly Seniors Board Game Day



SWC After Christmas Dinner





FEBRUARY

Calendar Highlights

- 2/1 Spaghetti Dinner Ticket Sales;
Kitchen closed for Spag. Dinner Prep
- 2/3 Nominations Committee Meeting
Men's Reading Group
Bible Reading Group*
Kaleidoscope Group*
Gloria Dei Ringers Rehearsal*
Jazz Group Rehearsal*
- 2/7 Spaghetti Dinner
- 2/8 Youth Bells Rehearsal
NO YOUTH GROUP
- 2/9 Staff Meeting
- 2/11 Men's Breakfast Group
Endowment Committee Meeting
- 2/12 Stitching Sisters
Cooking for Manna
Board of Trustees Meeting
- 2/13 Caregivers' Monthly Meeting
- 2/17 Finance Meeting
Evening Fellowship
- 2/18 Ash Wednesday (Service 7 PM)
Friendly Seniors
- 2/22 Manna Food Drive
Youth Bell & Choir Rehearsal
Youth Dinner & Drop In
- 2/23 Staff Meeting
- 2/25 Older Adult in the Driver's Seat Presentation
- 2/26 Susanna Wesley Circle Hymn Sing Trip
- 2/28 Tools for Ministry West District (Manheim)
- 3/5 Cooking for Manna
- 3/7 Tools for Ministry South & East (Eastern Univ.)

* Denotes Weekly meeting

Note: All meetings are subject to change.

Looking Ahead in 2026

Saturday, February 7th
Spaghetti Dinner



Wednesday, February 18th
Ash Wednesday



Friday, March 20th
Confirmation Retreat
(through 3/22)



Thursday, April 2nd
Holy Thursday Service



Friday, April 3rd
Good Friday Children's Event
Good Friday Tenebrae Service



Sunday, April 5th
Easter Sunday



Saturday, April 18th
Annual Indoor Yard Sale



Join us for Sunday Worship!

8:30 AM: In-person, communion every week

10:40 AM: In-person & livestreamed to YouTube, contemporary Praise & Worship

11:00 AM: In-person & livestreamed to YouTube, communion first Sunday of each month



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