



Christ Evangel

Volume 62, Issue 3, 2026
Christ United Methodist Church
1020 South Valley Forge Rd
Lansdale, PA 19446
215-855-1643
secretary@cumclansdale.org



**Endowment
Suggestions**

The Endowment Committee needs your help!

We are asking, at this time, for ideas for spending available 2026 funds of approximately \$3,000. The funds can be used for areas of Missions, Christian Education, and Church property improvements that are not covered by the Church budget. Scan the QR code above to complete a Google doc for submission of your idea. Include as much information about your idea as possible, including estimated cost and your name and other information requested. We will be accepting suggestions through April 13th. Items selected for our 2025 spending included a contribution for the new altar railings, a receptacle for the columbarium, contribution for Nativity scene repairs, pans for the Santa breakfast, 8 thermal carafes, and a new kitchen air conditioner. We look forward to your ideas!

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



These programs are open to the community—Please extend an invitation to those you know who have experienced a loss. Registration now open on the church website, www.cumclansdale.org.



Join Us for a Snowball Mountain Challenge this summer at VBC!

At Snowball Mountain Challenge, your children will learn that God is the source of their strength!

Children will enjoy engaging Bible stories, crafts, science activities, and games, all while growing in their faith and forming new friendships.

VBC is FREE and open for Children 4 years (by September 1, 2026) through completed fifth grade. Children must be potty trained. Sixth graders and older are welcome to serve as volunteers, making a lasting impact on young campers' lives.

Important Info:

Dates: July 13–17, 2026

Times:

- Morning Session: 9 AM – 12 PM
- Evening Session: 6 PM – 8 PM (Dinner Provided!)

Location: Christ UMC Lansdale, 1020 S. Valley Forge Rd., Lansdale, PA 19446

❄️❄️ Get ready to tackle the mountain with us this summer at Vacation Bible Camp 2026!! ❄️❄️



FROM THE PASTOR

Reverend Zachary Hopple



I don't know about you but I am praying that March is at least a little warmer than February has been. I am a little tired of that four letter word that has blanketed our world in mounds of ice and has only seemed to fall on Saturday nights leading into Sunday, prohibiting us from worshiping with regularity in January and February. As the ground begins to thaw, things start to change and people start to clean up the mess the snow has left behind.

There are times in my life where I feel that things are out of or beyond my control. Things seem chaotic and I feel that I am in a bit of a spiral as I am not able to steer the ship of my life without the waves springing up around me turn me in other directions that I do not necessarily want to go.

When I begin to feel that way, there is something that I tend to do to make myself feel like I have some sort of control - I clean. I don't just clean, I frantically clean. I organize various parts of my life that I have neglected for far too long. Piles of papers that have accumulated get purged, trinkets and odds and ends that I have held onto for far too long find their way to the trash or the yard sale pile. Things that have just been tossed on my desk find a home and get put away. My space gets dusted and cleaned and everything seems to be in order. Because if everything else seems like it is falling apart and beyond my control, at least this I can control and there is a very real and visible result for my actions. If you ever walk into my my office and my desk is in order, you know I have been struggling.

But sometimes the job is too big to handle on my own and I need help. Sometimes I get so overwhelmed with the mess around me that I don't know where to start and so I need someone to help me. They help me focus. They help me get started. They help me feel that I don't have to do it all alone.

It reminds me of what the Psalmist, David, says in Psalm 51:7 as he cries out to God. "Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow." Hyssop is a purple, blue, or white flowered herb in the mint family. Its aromatic leaves have a slightly bitter or minty taste. In the Bible it was a symbol of humility and referenced as parts of the acts of purification and ritualistic cleansing.

But here David requests divine assistance for purification. He requests that God purge him and clean him from the inside out. It was not only to be ritualistic, but it was the understanding that David could not do it on his own. He could try. He could try to make things right on his own, but he could only get so far. Only God could truly make him clean. Only God could make him "whiter than snow."

In our lives we often struggle. We often feel that we are out of control or that things in our lives are beyond our control. We fight and struggle to put things in order but sometimes it is beyond the scope of what we can do on our own. We need to turn to God and ask for God to work in our lives and in the world to clean us and to put things in order. It does not let us off the hook to participate, but it does take the pressure off that it is all our responsibility.

Yes, we need to participate to make things right in our lives and in the world around us, but some of it is more than we can ever handle on our own. But God is with us and we need to be open to allowing God to work in us and through us.

So as we think about the spring cleaning in our lives, putting things in order, or trying to get a grip on things that may otherwise may feel out of control, let us remember that we are not alone. Let us also remember that God is able and willing to do some of the heavy lifting in our lives to help us out. We do not have to do it alone, but we also have to ask for help. May we look to God and allow God to wash us and purify us.



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

Come on out on Monday, March 9th for the Deborah Circle meeting at 11:30AM in Room 106, fellowship hall!

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

A BIG THANK YOU to everyone who donated cotton socks for the Code Blue shelters for men and women! We have collected approximately 12 dozen pairs so far. They were very much appreciated, especially with this exceptionally COLD weather!

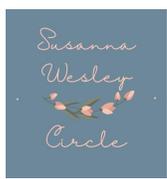
Any questions, please call Jean Davis at 267-218-2569 or Gail Scott at 215-368-0476. In case of inclement weather, we will contact you if the meeting needs to be cancelled or postponed. See you then! Bring a friend!

Cooking for Manna
March 5th, 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: An Evening in Greece on Thursday, Mar. 26th, 7:00 PM

The Susanna Wesley Circle is meeting Thursday, March 26, at 7:00 in the rose garden room. Ladies are invited to join us for an evening in Greece, as Judi Plummer shares photos of her travels through the Greek islands. Refreshments will include several delicious Greek desserts!



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

Stitching Sisters is hard at work on baby items that we will donate to The Baby Bureau and Mitzvah. We also have been keeping up a supply of Baby Blankets, Prayer Shawls and Chemo Afghans for use by our church pastors and Care Ministers.

Our next meeting is on Thursday, March 12th from 10:00 AM – Noon in fellowship hall. In March, we will start a project that will help Santa next December. Come join us!

Mark your calendar!

Annual Multi-Family Indoor Yard Sale

Saturday, April 18th, 9 AM - 1 PM



Friendly Seniors Think Spring! Wednesday, March 18th, 11:30 AM

If you're ready for the cold and snow of winter to be over, join the Christ Church Friendly Seniors on Wednesday, March 18th at 11:30 AM in the Fellowship Hall for our popular soup sampling and build-your-own salad, followed by a 1:00 presentation "Getting Your Garden Ready for Spring" by Susan Doblmaier, Master Gardener of Montgomery County. Whether you're new to gardening, have had your own garden for years, or want to help at the Christ Church Community Garden, come to learn tips to have your best garden yield yet!

The soup sampling will feature 3 different soups. You can try one, two or all three, with second helpings available! You are invited to bring along a salad ingredient or dessert to share. There is no cost for the luncheon or presentation, so why not invite a family member or friend to join you?

Sign up at the kiosk in the narthex or online. Please indicate if you plan to bring a salad ingredient or dessert. Meanwhile, think spring!

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.



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 March 2026

March Mission of the Month: Tails of Valor, Paws of Honor

Tails of Valor, Paws of Honor, Inc. based in Coopersburg, PA is in its second decade of service, and is dedicated to providing community education and rehabilitation programs that address the growing behavioral health challenges impacting our nation's veterans, first responders, their families, and the broader community. With rising rates of PTSD, depression, anxiety, substance use disorders, and suicide, there remains a critical need for accessible, community-based interventions that promote healing, resilience, and reintegration.



Tails of Valor programs are grounded in trauma-informed practices and designed to reduce barriers to care while strengthening emotional regulation, coping skills, and family stability. Through structured rehabilitation services, peer engagement, and educational outreach, Tails of Valor equips participants with practical tools to improve mental wellness, rebuild confidence, and restore connection within their homes and communities.

When you see a service dog in public, you see a calm, focused dog, unbothered by noise, people or chaos, you see the results. What you don't see is the 2 years of repetitions, training sessions with hours of practice, the patience of a dedicated staff working tirelessly, daily laundry, administration of stocking toys, food, meds, leashes, coordinating vet visits, grooming, bathing, keeping the kennel clean, moving equipment, tracking progress and setbacks. They also coordinate a large volunteer network of puppy raisers, puppy sitters, fundraisers, and kennel clean ups. You don't see those that opened their home and heart to donate their time, their sleep, their energy, feeding, socializing, teaching basic life skills. Volunteers are fully loving a puppy knowing they will be giving them back. It isn't easy, but it matters! You don't see the trainer who sharpens skills, shaping purpose. You don't see the setbacks, the slow days and weeks when progress wanes. But, all of it matters. A puppy comes in as a playful 8 week old puppy and departs as a focused dog trained to ignore everything so they can be everything for one person—a life-long companion that will provide confidence, safety, and dignity to their person. Tails of Valor dogs change lives without ever saying a word.

Your financial support during the month of March will support this Christian based 501(c)(3) organization to continue to expand program capacity, enhance outreach to underserved populations, and strengthen long-term behavioral health improvement. It costs \$25,000 to \$30,000 a year to raise each TOV puppy. Your donations will directly contribute to improved quality of life, reduced crisis intervention needs, and stronger, healthier communities for those who have sacrificed in service to others.

Food Drive Collection, 2026

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



Shores of Grace Ministry Tour—Save the Date! Friday, April 24th

Shores Of Grace is a ministry that has been supported through CUMC missions giving in the past. CUMC will be a stop on their April/May 2026 US tour. On April 24th there will be an early evening worship service that includes a worship music ministry led by Nic and Rachael Billman (founders of Shores of Grace), a video of

Shores ministries, a message, an offering to raise funds for their new rescue home for babies and specials needs children, and an altar prayer ministry. All teens, adults and children are welcome to attend!

News from Dallas Indian Mission UMC

Greetings to you from our friends at Dallas Indian Mission UMC. We have not had a prayer meeting with our friends in Dallas for a while. However, I have had regular contact with our liaison Alan Kriesel to get news and updates. I've also been in touch with the Pachekah sisters, the ladies who sang as part of our Native American Services.



Many things have been happening at the Dallas church. Most significantly, Pastor Jackson was reassigned to another congregation and Pastor Jamie Moss was assigned as the new pastor.

At that time, we were having Zoom prayer meetings several times a year. We had also learned how monthly Community Meals and other gatherings were at the heart of the Dallas church. A new kitchen stove was badly needed and with your support through Mission of the Month donations we were about to finish the kitchen improvements at the Dallas Church. What had started as a need for a new stove, quickly made it clear that a new exhaust hood with duct work to the outside of the building was a necessity. Then, the electric wiring in the kitchen was no match for the powerful exhaust system and multiple free standing cooking pots and roasters running when community meals are served.

At the moment all these projects are completed and the community meals and neighborhood cookouts are raising funds to keep the church running. Unfortunately our prayer meetings have not continued. We had one after Pastor Jamie arrived but after that it has become increasingly difficult to set up a date with Pastor Moss for the next one.

Pastor Moss wears many hats, "Mother, Pastor, Army reservist, Doctoral Student and District Superintendent." Our Prayer Group outreach may have been too much for her and we have not been able to have much contact. I still have regular phone calls with Alan Kriesel. He keeps telling me how grateful the church members are for their functional kitchen and what it allows them to do.

Initially our Mission was, to get to know our Native American brothers and sisters, talking and praying with them and creating awareness and making amends for the historic atrocities Native Americans have had to suffer. I feel grateful for the relationship we have had since 2019. Also, Alan still meets with a Bible Study group, the Silver Feathers, every other week. They and other members of DIMUMC still pray for members of our church that are on our Prayer list and Prayer Chain. If you are so inclined, you can pray for them as well. Their prayer list is printed below...

Thanks to our entire congregation for supporting this Mission and thanks to Pastor Zach, Jen Hopple and all those who organized and participated in our prayer meetings.

Ineke McCrea

Representative of CONAM (Committee on Native American Ministries)

Midweek Service / Silver Feathers Prayer List 02/12/26

Healing

Derek & Rita James	Reene Castillo	Linda Pahcheka	Rudy Gomez
Kassie & Staffan Kyling	Gary Corzine	Helen Escamilla	Pam Galloway
Audie & Sandra Ramirez	Beverly Gilbert	Linda Forsythe	Mary Jessie
Tim & Sally Yellowfish	Tracy Palmer	Amelia Ramirez	Tim Elizondo
Johnny & Jody Tiddark	Miriam Reynosa	Dan Farell	Ally Aitson
Bernice White Feather	Jeanie Rich		Eva Svitak

Spiritual Guidance

Delia Reyes
Gary Corzine

Peace and Comfort

The families of: Sonia Pahcheka, Dawna Castro & Two Crow,
Richard Washington, Amanda Abeyta, Michael Dewey,
Ronny Wilson, Danny Deshchidn, Peggy Larney

Hello from Preschool Express!

This February has blessed us with lots of love and learning! We had so much fun celebrating kindness at our Valentine's Day parties, we have hosted lots of surprise Mystery Readers from our preschool families, and Pre-K is gearing up for an awesome fieldtrip to Indian Valley Public Library! We have also been blessed with several new families who have joined our school, and we are excited to be opening enrollment for next school year to our community! If you know a family with little ones who might benefit from our magical little school, feel free to point them to us at preschoolexpress.org so they can come and join our joyful learning!



Casting your votes in the Target mobile app also helps earn funding for Family Promise Montco. Vote today! Deadline is March 31st, 2026.



Seed to Supper is an in-depth beginning gardening program that provides participants the tools they need to learn how to successfully grow a portion of their own food on a limited budget. Join Thursdays May 21-June 25 as Penn State and Manna team up to bring this program to CUMC!



FINANCIAL REPORT



Christ United Methodist Church Profit & Loss Budget Performance Jan. 2026

	Jan 2026
Revenue	
Total Revenue	\$ 49,098.11
Expenditures	
Total 4000 Missions	\$ 5,221.74
Total 5000 Programs	\$ 1,806.31
Total 6000 Salaries and Benefits	\$ 29,908.95
Total 7000 Property, Maintenance & Utility	\$ 21,406.93
Total Expenditures	\$ 58,343.93
Net Revenue	-\$ 9,245.82

Dear Members and Friends of CUMC,

Shown above is a summary of our church financial report for the month of January. Operating Budget income for January was \$49,098 and expenses were \$58,344, giving a deficit for the month of \$9,246. Not shown above is the \$2,477.12 received in January for the Mission of the Month (UMCOR Cleaning Buckets).

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

CUMC Finance Committee

Welcome to all of the new members of our CUMC family!



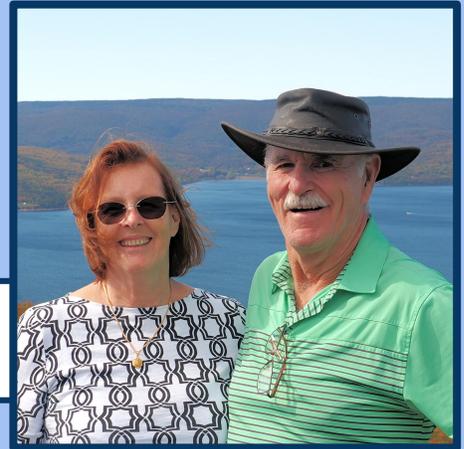
Donna
Banks

Sue
Bissett



Patti Cuff

Anne & Scott
Campbell



Diana Decembrino

Karen Gana





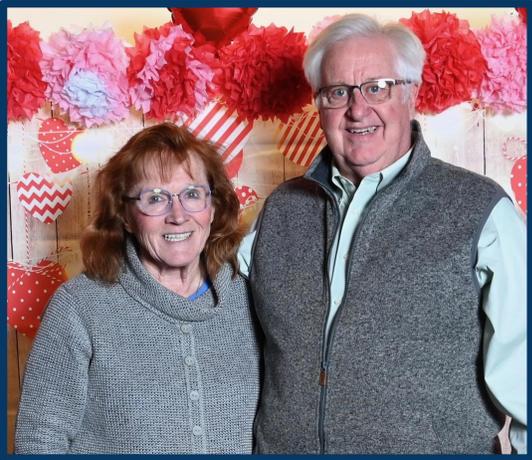
Phellan & Stacey
Huttanus



Beth Josephson



Beccie Loss



Linda & Walter
Payne



Karen Penna



Barb Pleskonko



Mark Strangeway



Hymn sing at Harborview Rehab and Care Center in Lansdale. The Susanna Wesley circle led the residents in familiar, well-loved hymns.



Spaghetti Dinner 2026



Packing College Boxes



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



Tuesday, May 19th
2026 Annual Conference
(in Wildwood, NJ through 5/21)



Thursday, May 21st
Red Cross Blood Drive, 1-6 PM



Monday, May 25th
Memorial Day



Sunday, June 7th
Confirmation Sunday



Sunday, June 14th
Church Handbell Concert



Calendar Highlights

- 3/3 Bishop's Day on the District
(Doylestown UMC, 7 PM)
- 3/5 Cooking for Manna
- 3/7 Tools for Ministry South & East (Eastern Univ.)
- 3/8 Daylight Savings Time Begins
Youth Group (at Applebee's)
- 3/9 Staff Meeting
Deborah Circle
- 3/10 Men's Reading Group
Bible Reading Group*
Kaleidoscope Group*
Gloria Dei Ringers Rehearsal*
Jazz Group Rehearsal*
- 3/11 Men's Breakfast Group
Endowment Committee Meeting
Various Music Group Rehearsals*
- 3/12 Stitching Sisters
Board of Trustees Meeting
- 3/13 Caregivers' Monthly Meeting
- 3/15 Mission Committee Meeting
- 3/17 Finance Meeting
Evening Fellowship
- 3/18 Loss of a Spouse
Friendly Seniors
- 3/20 Confirmation Retreat at Gretna Glen
(through 3/22)
- 3/12 Laity Academy at CUMC
- 3/22 Manna Food Drive
Youth Dinner & Drop In
- 3/23 Staff Meeting
- 3/24 Church Council Meeting
- 3/25 GriefShare*
- 3/26 Susanna Wesley Circle
SPRC Meeting
- 3/29 Palm Sunday
EGGstravaganza Egg Hunt
- 4/2 Holy Thursday Service
- 4/3 Good Friday Children's Event
Tenebrae Service
- 4/5 Easter Sunday
- 4/6 Easter Monday (Church Office Closed)

* Denotes Weekly meeting

Note: All meetings are subject to change.

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

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
CHRIST
1020 S. Valley Forge Rd
Lansdale, PA 19446



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