



Christ Evangel

Volume 62, Issue 5, 2026
Christ United Methodist Church
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Mission Trip 2026: June 21st-27th, Otterbein UMC, Lancaster City, PA
WE ARE SO EXCITED TO FINALLY ANNOUNCE OUR 2026 MISSION TRIP!!
This year's mission trip will be to Otterbein UMC in Lancaster City from June 21st- 27th. Otterbein serves a crucial role in helping provide for the unhoused population in Lancaster City, and we are going to help their mission. We will be staying at the church and will work in two groups to help update and renovate a room in the church, as well as help local resource hubs organize their inventory and package materials, leading up to helping the congregation lead a community impact event. The trip is open to students entering 7th grade in the fall through those graduating high school this spring. We will also need several adult volunteers to be Safe Sanctuary compliant and to help with food. We'd love to have you!! For more information, or if you have any questions, reach out to Nick Hill at youthdirector@cumclansdale.org.



The 19th Annual Jim and Joey Hayes Memorial Golf Outing: June 13th, 2026
*Note the date is still the second Saturday in June!!!

All are welcome. We will be playing at Mainland Golf Course. The first tee time will be 8:30 AM. Please sign up early. Tee times are limited to the first 8 foursomes.

We will play golf followed by fellowship, including prizes. Scoring will be a Scramble format, always fun. Our Church Pre-School will be the charity again this year.

If you have a prize to donate, a suggestion, or a question, please contact Don Albacker at (215) 692-2958 or dalbacker@jclfg.com. To sign up email or call Don Albacker.



Staff Meeting Days and Times are Changing!

The church staff meetings will be changing from Mondays to Tuesdays at 10:15 AM, roughly every other week. The next staff meeting is currently scheduled for May 5, 10:15 AM. Staff meetings typically last an hour to an hour and fifteen minutes. During this time, office staff are not available to answer phones or in-person requests. When possible, a volunteer comes into the office to take messages, but that is not always guaranteed. If you have any needs, please check the church calendar for the staff meeting dates before coming in—we would hate for anyone to make a needless trip to the church! If you are interested in becoming an office volunteer, please reach out to secretary@cumclansdale.org!





FROM THE PASTOR

Reverend Zachary Hopple



I was never in any of those scouting groups growing up, but for some reason, I developed the need to be prepared for a lot of eventualities. Going to be a counselor at camp? I pack for every situation I can think of. (Except going in the lake - I'm not doing that!) Going hiking in the woods to take pictures? I pack a first aid kit, snacks, water, orange vest, and even an emergency blanket. Going on a road trip? Again, snacks, water, and anything else I might need for the trip.

And it's not just with supplies. I am constantly thinking of backup plans, and backup plans to my backup plans. Whenever I approach a situation, especially one that I know may prove to be difficult, I like to have multiple options on hand on how to proceed depending on what situations arise. I like to plan to be prepared.

There are plenty of times in the Bible where it tells us to be ready. Jesus often uses parables to remind us to prepare ourselves and be ready for his return. Like in Matthew 24 where Jesus compares waiting for his return as someone being watchful of a thief in the night, or being faithful in their duties when the owner of the home returns. This latter parable is echoed in Luke 12 and accompanied with a parable of servants dressed for action with their lamps filled and trimmed, waiting for the owner of the house to return.

The epistles mention in several places about being prepared to serve in various capacities, as well as being prepared to stand up against all that is evil. Several places in the Old Testament mention about being prepared as a people to serve God. And Proverbs is full of axioms to encourage us to be prepared in various aspects of life. For example, Proverbs 21:5 tells us, "The plans of the diligent lead surely to abundance, but everyone who is hasty comes only to want."

As a church, we are in a season of preparation. It was announced just before Easter that we will begin a capital campaign later this year to address structural issues with our building (such as the foundation and sanctuary wall), a new roof, and much needed upgrades and repairs to our facilities. Our trustees are working diligently with our finance committee and other church leaders to compile a complete list of our needs and projects to form a comprehensive plan for this campaign. I am incredibly thankful for the amazing job our leaders are doing to prepare for this undertaking.

But we as a congregation can prepare as well. Even though the capital campaign has not yet started, we can get ready for it. When it was announced, I requested that we all lift this process up in prayer. I want to reiterate this request to pray for our leaders as this work is done, and pray for the campaign itself as it begins that we are able to accomplish all that we set ourselves to do.

There are other ways we can prepare. We can begin thinking of ways we can set aside additional funds to help start off this campaign. For example: you could begin to set aside additional income that you did not count on or costs you save when purchasing items. This could be as simple as receiving a few dollars for helping a friend move, or getting a free coffee because of accumulating reward points and then setting aside the cost of the coffee. This may only be a few dollars here and there, but if everyone begins preparing now, and consistently does something along these lines, by the time the campaign begins, we will have an incredible start to help put this campaign on solid footing.

Christ UMC is a special place for all of us. This is a loving congregation that has done so much for so many people in our community and around the world for over 150 years. This capital campaign is essential so that this building will stand for years to come, ensuring that we can continue to transform lives in the love of Jesus Christ. I encourage you to prayerfully consider how you will support this capital campaign and begin to prepare to do so. May God bless you.



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 May Meeting: May 11th, 11:30 AM

Our Deborah Circle will meet on Monday, May 11th, at 11:30 AM in fellowship hall, Room 106. We will be having a ham luncheon and would appreciate it if everyone would bring a side dish or a dessert. Please sign up on the SignUpGenius online or the sheet in the narthex as to what you will bring.

A big thank you to everyone who helped out at the Indoor yard sale on Saturday, April 18th! Also, thank you to the set up team for all their work in getting the hall set up for the yard sale! The money we collected will be given to several of our missions.

We will also be planning for the June meeting which will be lunch at the church (please bring a sandwich or salad). We will not be meeting in July or August.

Any questions, please call Jean at 267-218-2569 or Gail at 215-368-0476. Please feel free to bring a friend also!

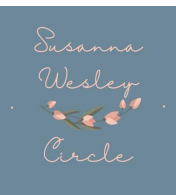
Cooking for Manna

May 7th, 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: Scherenschnitte Presentation, May 28th, 7 PM

The Susanna Wesley Circle will be meeting Thursday, May 28th, at 7 PM, in the Rose Garden room. Pastor Zach will introduce us to the art of Scherenschnitte (paper cutting) and then guide us in creating our own project. If you don't consider yourself a "craftsperson," there's no need to worry. We have been assured that the project will be doable by everyone. Please join us for an evening of fellowship that is both informative and productive. More details will be available in the weekly emails in May.

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 will meet on May 14th from 10 AM - noon in Fellowship Hall. Come join us as we fellowship together as we create gifts for church members and charities.

From Dallas Indian Mission UMC

Our friends at Dallas Indian Mission UMC, in particular the Silver Feathers Bible Study group, pray for us and our special concerns. They send their prayer concerns to us monthly. We printed the entire list in the April Evangel. This month two names were added, Arlene Overland, and Darren Luther. Please include them in your prayers. Thank you. If you'd like more information about DIMUMC, contact Ineke McCrea.



Friendly Seniors Visit Knapp Farmhouse, May 20th, 11 AM

Friendly Seniors will be visiting the Knapp Farmhouse located at 101 Montclair Drive, just off of DeKalb Pike near the Montgomery Mall. Join us as we learn about the history of the Farm, the family who lived in the house, and the Montgomeryville area. Did you know there was a Methodist church as well as a cemetery at the five points intersection? We will meet at the CUMC parking lot at 10:30 AM on May 20th to carpool to the Knapp Farmhouse, or you can meet us there at 11 AM.

Please sign up with Jean Davis jeandavis108@comcast.net, sign up in the narthex, or use the SignUpGenius on the church website.

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.



Graduate Sunday is coming soon!

Sunday, June 14th is Graduate Sunday! If you have a graduate this year (high school, vocational school, college, or graduate school), we will be collecting their information to recognize them in the June Evangel and on Graduate Sunday! Make sure you send their info to the office so that we can celebrate their accomplishments!!

Grief Support at Christ UMC

Healing from loss is a journey. There is no "right way" to grieve, and grief cannot be rushed. It is a journey that shouldn't be traveled alone. Everyone experiences grief differently, but you'll find many grieving people are facing the same struggles. If you are dealing with the loss of a loved one, join us for GriefShare; our 13 week cycle continues through June 17th, 2026, (\$20 registration fee covers all 13 weeks—scholarships are available.) Each week's session is self-contained, so starting at any time in the 13 weeks is fine. We meet in the Reichley classroom, next to the church office, each Wednesday at 1:30. Enter through the office entrance. These programs are open to the community—please extend an invitation to those you know who have experienced a loss. Register on the church website, www.cumclansdale.org, under Events.



Pull your tabs for Ronald McDonald House!

Please remember to save your flip tops and bring them to CUMC. We are always collecting aluminum pull tabs from soda, soup, vegetable, and pet food cans for Ronald McDonald House. Tabs are recycled and proceeds directly benefit the RMD House. There is a drawer in the narthex for these tabs at the Manna shelves—all tabs can be placed in that drawer.

MISSION of the Month May 2026

May Mission of the Month: Morning Star Maternity Home

The Mission of the Month for May is the Morning Star Maternity Home, located in Telford, Pennsylvania. Morning Star Maternity Home is a Christian Non-Profit Crisis Pregnancy Home. It operates in the North Penn area, offering a positive alternative to abortion.



They are capable of housing and caring for up to four unwed mothers, between the ages of 18-25 in a loving home-like environment. They supply housing and related services to teens and young women facing crisis pregnancy. They offer care when the resident arrives and ends when she and the baby have a safe environment in which to return.


In addition to housing, and basic needs, they also provide parenting classes, birthing classes, life skill classes, assist with doctor appointments, help obtain medical assistance, earning their GED, finding employment, and researching suitable housing.

Volunteer opportunities are:

- Housing Sitter: Cover the house, when the house parents must be out—an informal way to interact with the young women
- Instructor: Teach residents lessons for their future, skills such as healthy relationships, parenting education, life skills, arts and crafts, time and money management, nutrition, household management, and job acquisition
- Labor Coach: Paired with young women for duration of pregnancy, providing support and encouragement and attending birthing classes
- Office/Clerical: Help with light duties, mailings, making phone calls, etc.
- Ambassador: Have a heart for Morning Star and actively involve others (church, family, and community)
- Prayer Partners: Provide friendly understanding prayers and spiritual support

For more information, contact Jean Davis 267-218-2569 or 215-723-8103
Morning Star

Food Drive Collection, 2026			
Jan - 56 lbs	Apr -	Jul -	Oct -
Feb - 314 lbs	May -	Aug -	Nov -
Mar -	Jun -	Sep -	Dec -



Seed to Supper will be hosted at CUMC again this year!

Seed to Supper is a free beginning gardening program facilitated by the Penn State Extension Master Gardeners at Christ UMC in partnership with Manna on Main Street. Adult gardeners will learn the tools they need to successfully grow a portion of their own food on a limited budget.



This program prioritizes individuals in Montgomery County on a limited budget. Individuals interested in the program must register with the application on the church website or the paper version, available in the church office, and will be chosen on a lottery basis. The program will begin on Thursday, May 21st.



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!! ❄️❄️



Hello from Preschool Express!

April is blooming with joy at our Preschool Express! 🌸 We feel so blessed to be surrounded by God's love and the wonder of new life all around us. A big thank you to our amazing church family for the awesome CUMC Eggstravaganza Egg Hunt! It was such a joyful and inclusive celebration for all! 🐣

Our little learners are busy this month watching caterpillars turn into butterflies, exploring insects in STEM class, and enjoying our "Fairy Tales in Motion" yoga stories. We're also excited for our upcoming Pre-K trip to the Perkiomen Valley Watershed and a fun-filled Field Day to jump start the month of May!

We are still enrolling for next school year and have a few spots available, if you know a family who might be interested, please have them reach out to us at preschoolexpress.org or 215-412-7836.

We are so thankful to keep growing and learning together this spring, celebrating God's diverse and perfect creation every step of the way. 🦋

Join us for the Children's Musical on May 24th!

Join us for worship on May 24th, as the Carol Choir takes us back to the 70's for the groovy game show musical, Tell Me The Truth! Host Johnny Glibb and announcer Jane Cheese guide the contestants as they share the REAL TRUTH for all of us!



CUMC Softball is starting soon!!

Our next softball season is here! Once again we will be playing all of our games on Tuesday evenings at 7 PM (warmups at 6:30 PM). Games will begin on May 5. We will also combine with Sanctuary for two practices, Sunday, April 26 and Sunday, May 3, both at 4 PM, before games start.

If you are interested in joining, come on out to the field! You do not have to be a member of the church to play—feel free to invite a friend! Youth ages 13 and up are welcome to play with a responsible adult at the field.

For more information and a game schedule, contact Kristi Weatherwax.



FINANCIAL REPORT

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

	Mar-26	YTD
Total Revenue	\$ 61,291.65	\$ 158,657.75
Expenditures		
Total 4000 Missions	\$ 8,457.44	\$ 28,485.34
Total 5000 Programs	\$ 2,152.30	\$ 6,178.12
Total 6000 Salaries and Benefits	\$ 29,153.10	\$ 93,739.89
Total 7000 Property, Maintenance & Utility	\$ 13,868.26	\$ 63,238.79
Total Expenditures	\$ 53,631.10	\$ 191,642.14
Net Operating Revenue	\$ 7,660.55	-\$ 32,984.39

Dear Members and Friends of CUMC,

Shown above is a summary of our church financial report for the month of March and Year-to-Date. Operating Budget income for March was \$61,292 and expenses were \$53,631, giving a surplus for the month of \$7,661. Year-to-Date Operating Budget income is \$158,658, expenses are \$191,642, giving an overall deficit of \$32,984.

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



**Time change means
outside Youth Group!**



**Third and fourth graders
always love a good
food craft! They had fun
creating the empty
tomb that was found on
that first Easter morning!**



**The Friendly Seniors visited the
Pearl S. Buck home and national
historic landmark in April.**



**What a difference
one life can make!**

2026 Indoor Yard Sale

Be on the lookout
for good finds!
(And photobombers!)



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

Graduate Sunday
Church Handbell Concert



Sunday, June 21st

Youth Mission Trip at Otterbein UMC
(through 6/27)



Monday, July 13th

VBC: Snowball Mountain Challenge
(through 7/17)

Thursday, July 23rd

Red Cross Blood Drive 1-6 PM



Calendar Highlights

- 5/1 Senior Exercise Class*
- 5/2 Entire church property closed due to event
- 5/4 Men's Reading Group*
Staff Meeting
Kaleidoscope Group*
Gloria Dei Ringers Rehearsal*
Jazz Group Rehearsal*
- 5/5 Staff Meeting (10: 15 AM)
- 5/6 GriefShare*
Various Music Group Rehearsals*
- 5/7 Cooking for Manna
- 5/8 Caregivers' Monthly Meeting
- 5/10 Mother's Day
Youth Group
Youth Rehearsals
- 5/11 Deborah Circle
- 5/13 Men's Breakfast Group
Endowment Committee Meeting
- 5/14 Stitching Sisters
Board of Trustees Meeting
- 5/17 Mission Committee Meeting
- 5/18 Books Between Friends
- 5/19 Finance Meeting
Evening Fellowship
Annual Conference (through 5/21)
- 5/20 Preschool Graduation
Friendly Seniors
- 5/21 Red Cross Blood Drive (1-6 PM)
Seed to Supper Program* begins
- 5/24 Manna Food Drive
Youth Dinner & Drop In
- 5/25 Memorial Day (Church office closed)
- 5/26 Preschool Summer Camp begins
Church Council Meeting
- 5/28 Susanna Wesley Circle
SPRC Meeting

* Denotes Weekly meeting

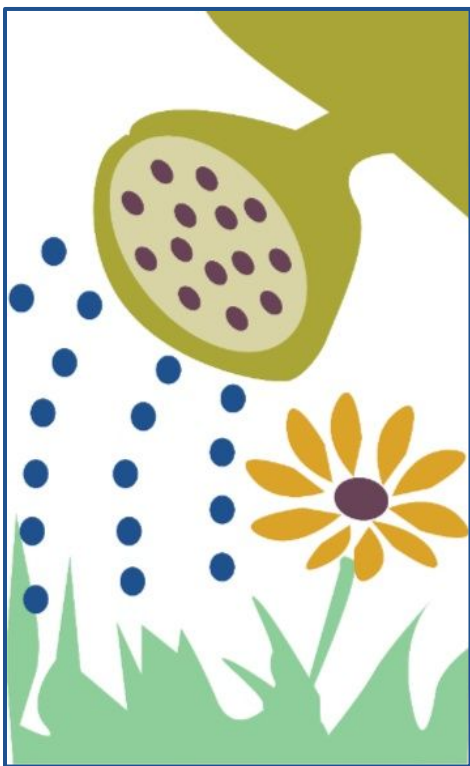
Note: All meetings are subject to change.

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



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