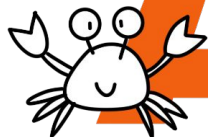




Christ Evangel

Volume 62, Issue 8, 2026
Christ United Methodist Church
1020 South Valley Forge Rd
Lansdale, PA 19446
215-855-1643
secretary@cumclansdale.org



AUGUST



Support the Trustees Capital Fund with Gift Cards – Now Accepting Venmo!

Looking for a painless way to support the Trustees Capital Fund? Our church gift card program makes it easy! We offer nearly 30 different gift cards for grocery stores, restaurants, retail shops, and entertainment.

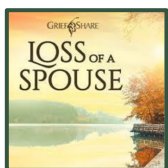


The church purchases these gift cards at a discount and sells them to you at face value—so you pay exactly what you would at the store while the church earns a percentage of each sale. Lansdale Deli offers the highest return of 25%. Every purchase helps support the Trustees Capital Fund at no additional cost to you. Stop by the gift card table after worship to see the full selection!

For your convenience, we now accept Venmo! Note: Venmo payments must be made from a bank account linked to your Venmo account, not a credit card, to avoid incurring additional fees to you.



Care Ministry Upcoming Events



Loss of a Spouse: Wednesday, September 16th 1:30 to 3:30 PM

no charge for this one time program for those grieving their husband or wife. We meet in the Reichley room, right inside the church office-enter through the office. Sign up on the church website, www.cumclansdale.org, under Events.



GriefShare: Wednesdays from 1:30 - 3:30 PM, September 23rd - December 16th

this 13-week program begins on Wednesday, September 23rd. Each week we view a video, and participants share their experiences on their journey of grief. We welcome those grieving a spouse, a child, a parent, or another loved one. Registration fee, that covers all 13 weeks, is \$25. Scholarships are available. We meet each week from 1:30 to 3:30, in the Reichley room, right inside the church office-enter through the office. Sign up on the church website, www.cumclansdale.org, under Events.



Caregivers group: Monthly, typically the second Friday at 10 AM. We meet via Zoom.

Members of this group share their stories of caring for loved ones-at home, or in a facility, near or far. There is comfort in knowing that others can relate to what's happening in our lives. For questions or to receive the Zoom link, contact Marge Kramer, marge.kramer@cumclansdale.org.

If any of these programs would be beneficial to you, we hope you'll join us. They are open to those both inside and outside of our church, so please extend an invitation to anyone in your life who may find them helpful.



FROM THE PASTOR

Rev. Dr. Zachary Hopple



Have you ever read through the book of proverbs? It is amazing the wisdom that is found in this book (attributed mostly to King Solomon). Written to pass his wisdom on to the readers, it mentions early on that "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction" (Prov. 1:7).

While it is a collection of various sayings that can possibly stand alone, it is interesting to see how they are grouped together. A very common Proverb often utilized, recounted, and memorized is Proverbs 3:5-7 which states, "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not rely on your own insight. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths. Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear the Lord and turn away from evil." The next part is not often added when the rest is quoted, but it continues, "It will be a healing for your flesh and a refreshment for your body" (v. 8). The next verse continues with, "Honor the Lord with your substance and with the first fruits of all your produce; then your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will be bursting with wine" (3:9-10). While they are separate ideas, it is still fascinating to see that these proverbs focus on trusting in God and then move directly into offering our first fruits to God and include a promise of God's provision.

Our church has always trusted that God will lead us where we need to go and provide for what we need to be in ministry in this community and in this world. Our church has moved to various locations, and at each location expanded as far as we could. While we are not expanding this facility, it is in much need of repair, and we are trusting that God will help us through this process with your help.

Beginning in September we will kick off our capital campaign to raise the funds necessary to cover the cost of the upcoming required repairs to our facilities and much needed upgrades. While some repairs have already been made, these expenses (and rising costs) have depleted our capital reserves and forced us to operate at a deficit for the majority of the year so far.

We strive to be good stewards of all that God has given us. Within the past few years we paid off the two mortgages we accumulated to cover the costs of our expansion projects, and we have faithfully continued to be an outward focused congregation by providing free programming for our community and continuing to provide funding and support for various missions and ministries in our community and around the world to spread the love of God with all people. None of this is possible without your support and God's continued provision.

Our church exists because of your generosity, and I thank you. **As August gives way to September**, I encourage you to prayerfully consider how God is calling you to continue to support Christ UMC and our mission to transform lives in the love of Jesus Christ. Consider how you will support our capital campaign to help care for and make improvements our facilities to help us better serve our community and be a place to spread hope and love.

May God bless you.

Food Drive Collection, 2026

Jan - 56 lbs	Apr - 300 lbs	Jul - 376 lbs	Oct -
Feb - 314 lbs	May - Unknown	Aug -	Nov -
Mar - 215 lbs	Jun - Unknown	Sep -	Dec -





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: No Meeting in August. See you September 14th!

The Deborah Circle will not be meeting during August. Our first meeting in the fall will be on Monday, September 14th at 11:30 AM at the church in fellowship hall, Room 106. Please bring your lunch and a beverage and join us for food, fellowship and fun! Please feel free to bring a friend!

Our speaker will be our own Nick Hill who will be giving a presentation about the Youth Mission Trip to Lancaster City a few weeks ago.

We are also planning to have baskets in the narthex for toiletry items and socks for the women and men at the Code Blue shelter in Lansdale. It will be there from September until November.

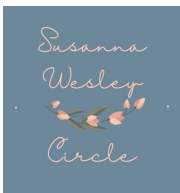
Also, please remember to send cards or call our members who cannot come out to our meetings at this time. We know they appreciate keeping in touch. Any questions, please contact Jean Davis at 215-218-2569 or Gail Scott at 215-368-0476. Stay safe and we look forward to seeing you on September 14th!

Cooking for Manna

August 6th, 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 100 people. Meal prep tasks include washing and chopping vegetables or fruit, shredding chicken, cooking pasta, and assembling the meal. All of these are invited to help in the kitchen to prepare the meal, so feel free to bring a friend or family member 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: No Summer Meetings; See you on September 24th!

The Susanna Wesley Circle will not meet in July or August. Our next meeting will be dinner at a local restaurant (TBD) on September 24th. Save the date and watch for details in the Evangel and weekly emails in September.

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.



Caregivers Support Group

Are you a caregiver? Caregiving, for someone in your home, remotely, or for someone in a care facility, is challenging. Our caregivers' group allows the time to share experiences, frustrations, and more. We meet virtually on the second Friday of each month, typically at 10 AM. To learn more, and to receive the Zoom link, contact Marge Kramer at marge.kramer@cumclansdale.org.

Stitching Sisters

Stitching Sisters will meet this summer on July 9th and August 13th in fellowship hall from 10:00 - noon. Bring whatever project you are working on and join the fellowship of our group. New faces are always welcome. July or August is a great time if you need help with your knitting or crocheting skills. We have some very patient teachers in our group and all are welcome.



From Dallas Indian Mission UMC

Please pray for those who are on the prayer list of Dallas Indian Mission UMC. If you like to be on their prayer list you can add your name to our Prayer Chain or call Ineke McCrea. Members on our Prayer Chain will automatically be included on the prayer list sent to Dallas IMUMC. Their Silver Feathers Bible Study group has been faithfully praying for us, as we pray for them.



Prayer Requests from Dallas IMUMC, 5/14/2026

Healing

Tim and Sally Yellowfish	James Williams Jr.	Yolanda Munoz	Ricky Yellowfish Sr.
Kassie and Staffan Kyling	Dan Farell	Ralph Huffman	Cynthia Gonzales
Gary Corzine	Miriam Reynosa	Arlene Overland	Amelia Ramirez
Beverly Gilbert	Linda Pahcheka	Cynthia Martinez	Roger Kriesel
Peter Brown	Linda Powers	Kaylen Jay Coleman	Helen Curley
Carry (Unknown last name)	Vicki Folsom	Allen Stone	Loretta Battiest

Spiritual Guidance

Gary Corzine, Rebekah Noahubi

Peace and Comfort

The families of: Fernando Hernandez, Rudy Gomez Jr.



Save the Date: Retreat Weekend is Nov. 6th through Nov. 8th!

Both fall retreats for 2026 will be offered the weekend of November 6th through November 8th.

Women's Retreat: The retreat will be held at Gretna Glen Camp & Retreat Center from the evening of Friday, November 6th through lunch on Sunday, November 8th. Contact Pastor Tawny at tawny.bernhardt@cumclansdale.org for more information.

Men's Retreat: The retreat will be held at Camp Innabah for "Christian Living Inspired by Jazz" and led by Rev. Jim Goudie. Contact Ken Dickinson at orangeaero@comcast.net for more information, or contact Ed Hartmann to register: 215-896-3399 or edhart3399@gmail.com. More info available on the church website.

Did you know the youth gather around a meal twice a month?

Each time there is a youth group meeting, the evening begins with a meal, a prayer of thanks, and a time of fellowship where the focus is being relational with each other and catching up on each other's lives. This helps everyone connect before we move into the activities for the evening, where the focus is often on what is happening rather than sharing about our lives.

Youth Group Dinners

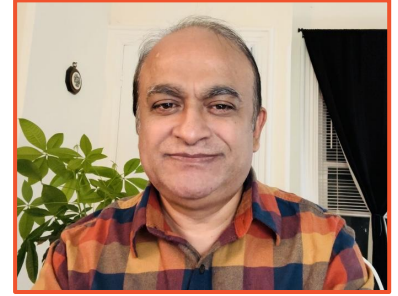


This meal has also become a place for the youth to interact with others in the church! We are looking for people to provide and help serve this meal. We also invite you to eat with us and join the conversation! There is no expectation of frequency; you can sign up as often as you like, and reimbursement for costs is always available! Sign up on the church website under Get Involved > Volunteer Opportunities or talk to Nick at youthdirector@cumclansdale.org. Come get to know our youth and learn about all the great things they are doing in their lives!

MISSION of the Month August 2026

August Mission of the Month: International Ministries - Rev. Dr. Rodney Ragwan

August's Mission of the Month supports Rev. Dr. Rodney Ragwan, who is a Global Consultant for Theological Education with International Ministries (IM). Born in South Africa, Rodney also serves a church here in North Wales, but travels the world through International Ministries equipping pastors, emerging leaders, and theological educators by helping them connect their faith and mission within their cultural contexts. His mission is to "equip global Christian leaders with theological education that fosters deep understanding and leads to the transformation of lives and communities for God's mission." The support of Christ UMC will allow Rodney to continue to serve faithfully, guiding next-generation leaders to put sound biblical teaching into action with wisdom, courage, and compassion. Thank you for supporting our August Mission of the Month.



Meals for Family Promise

Our Church will again be helping feed families who will be staying at Trinity Lutheran Church in Lansdale. Our two-week period will begin on September 16th, and end on September 30th. We feed three different families, of different sizes and food preference. We need people to provide meals on Sept. 16th, Sep 18th, Sept 21st, Sept 23rd, Sept 25th, Sept 28th, and Sept 30th. We will get the list of family size and preference at the beginning of September. If you would like to sign up, please use the Sign Up Genius on the church website, or get in touch with Jean Davis (jeandavis108@comcast.net). Thank you!

 **Family Promise**
Montco PA and Main Line
An Interfaith Response to Homelessness & Hunger

The Mustard Seed Garden



The Mustard Seed garden is doing well this summer. So far we have taken 20 pounds of lettuce to Manna. We have yellow squash ripening, with some already harvested. Also growing are zucchini, green beans (both pile and bush), peppers, tomatoes, and okra. Beets will be ready in another week. Sunflowers, dill, and marigolds have self seeded and are appearing at various places throughout the garden. If you are interested in helping with the gardening, please let the office know.



Photos
from the Garden



FINANCIAL REPORT

Christ United Methodist Church Profit & Loss Budget Performance June 2026

	Jun-26	YTD
Revenue		
Total Revenue	\$ 48,649.54	\$ 325,377.77
Expenditures		
Total 4000 Missions	\$ 9,408.45	\$ 56,243.33
Total 5000 Programs	\$ 2,027.61	\$ 16,493.72
Total 6000 Salaries and Benefits	\$ 28,992.21	\$ 182,223.99
Total 7000 Property, Maintenance & Utility	\$ 7,147.05	\$ 84,701.39
Total Expenditures	\$ 47,575.32	\$ 339,662.43
Net Operating Revenue	\$ 1,074.22	\$ (14,284.66)

Dear Members and Friends of CUMC,
Shown above is a summary of our church financial report for the month of June and Year-to-Date. Operating Budget income in June was \$48,649.54 and expenses were \$47,575.32, giving a surplus for the month of \$1,074.22. Year-to-Date Operating Budget income is \$325,377.77, expenses are \$339,662.43, giving an overall Operating Budget deficit of (\$14,284.66). We thank you for your continued financial support of our church and its ministries. –CUMC Finance Committee

Summer Update from Preschool Express!

Preschool Express hopes everyone is enjoying a fun, relaxing, and faith-filled summer! While our school year is on summer break, our classrooms have been anything but quiet! We were thrilled to welcome children back for another amazing Vacation Bible Camp. Pastor Tawny put together an incredible program, and it has been such a joy to see familiar faces returning and to meet many new friends as well!



We'll also be out in the community this summer! Be sure to stop by the Preschool Express table at Souderton's 3rd Friday events in July and August, where we'll have games, goodies, and plenty of fun for children and families.

As we look ahead to the fall, we still have a few openings in our preschool program. If you know a family looking for a loving, Christ-centered preschool, we'd be grateful if you'd share our information with them! They can learn more at PreschoolExpress.org or reach out to Miss Val with any questions.

We can't wait to welcome our students back this fall for another wonderful year of learning, growing, and sharing God's love!



Thank You and Hello!!

This August will be Donna Stewart's last month working in the office. While we are sad that we won't see your smiling face every day, we all wish you the absolute best in your retirement and are so thankful for all that you have done and all of the people you have impacted over the last 3.5 years!! Congratulations and THANK YOU for all of the ways you have contributed to our church family!



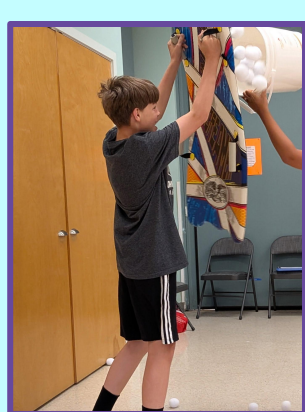
This August, Betsy Nice will be joining the church office staff. We are so excited to welcome you onboard and look forward to serving alongside you each day! We pray that your transition into the church office is smooth and that you feel the welcome from each of us!

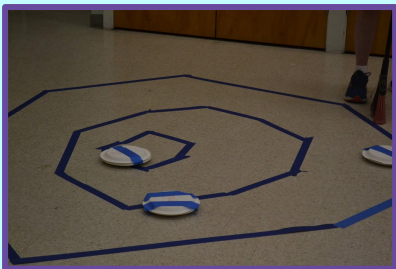
If you see either of these lovely people this month, please make sure to pass on your 6 congratulations and welcome!

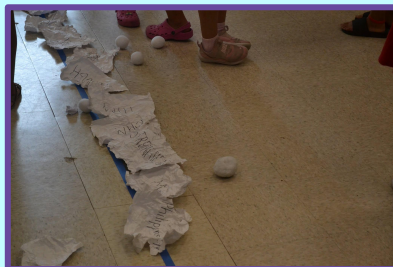
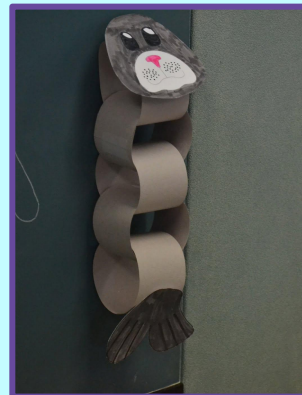


VBC 2026









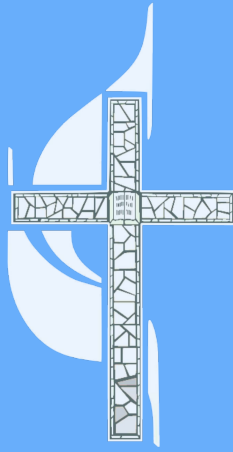


I CAN DO ALL THINGS THROUGH HIM WHO STRENGTHENS ME.

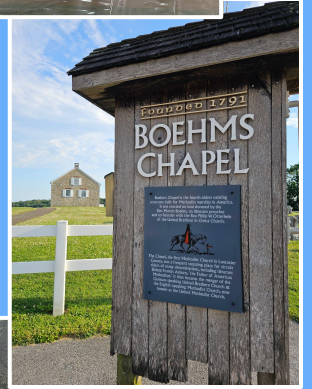
PHILIPPIANS 4:13, NRSV



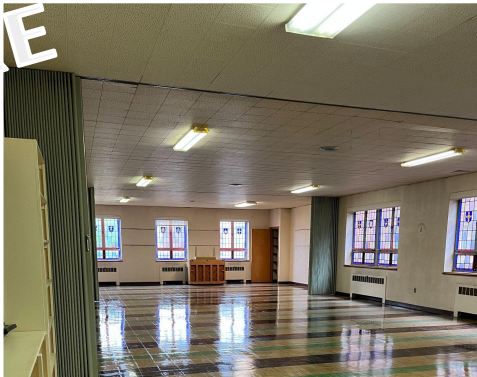
Christ UMC Lansdale Youth Mission Trip 2026
at Otterbein UMC, Lancaster, PA



"Dear children, let us not love with words or
speech but with actions and in truth"
-1 John 3:18

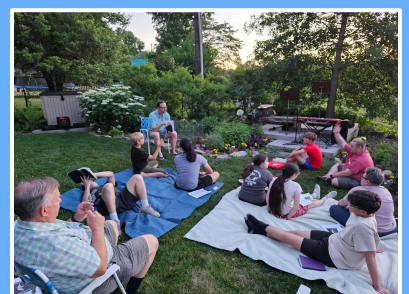
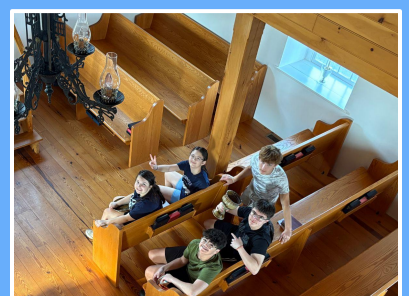


BEFORE



AFTER







AUGUST

Calendar Highlights

- 8/4 Staff Mtg
Softball Game*
- 8/6 Cooking for Manna
- 8/9 Youth Group
- 8/12 Men's Breakfast Grp
GriefShare Reunion
Endowment Mtg
- 8/13 Stitching Sisters
Board of Trustees Mtg
- 8/14 Caregivers Monthly Mtg
- 8/18 Staff Mtg
Finance Mtg
- 8/23 Manna Food Drive
Youth Group
- 8/27 SPRC Mtg
- 9/1 Staff Mtg
- 9/3 Cooking for Manna

** Denotes Weekly meeting*

Note: All meetings are subject to change.

Looking Ahead in 2026

Sunday, September 13th

Kickoff Sunday



Sunday, September 20th

Sunday School Classes Resume

Saturday, September 26th

Rise Against Hunger Meal Packing



Sunday, October 18th

Trunk or Treat



Sunday, November 1st

Daylight Savings Time Ends



Tuesday, November 3rd

Election Day



Friday, November 6th

Men's & Women's Retreats
(through 11/8)



Thursday, November 26th

Thanksgiving



Sunday, November 29th

First Sunday of Advent



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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