



Christ Evangel

november

Volume 61, Issue 11, 2025

Celebrating 150 Years!

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

College Boxes

We have about 20 college students that we will be sending college boxes to the week of Nov. 3rd. We will be collecting items for the boxes until Nov. 2nd. We will pack the boxes Nov. 2nd during the Sunday School hour, 9:45 AM. Examples of goodies are: popcorn, hot chocolate, nuts, gum, fruit roll-ups, pretzel stix, crackers, cookies, slim jims, dried fruit, granola bars, and candy. 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 prayers from their church family. You can still turn your student or military person address into the church office.



Dementia Program Coming to CUMC

On Monday, November 17th at 7 PM, Dementia Friendly Montgomery County will present a no-charge program for us.

This evening will help you to:

- >Describe dementia and know the most common type.
- >Identify early signs and symptoms.
- >Effectively communicate with a person living with dementia.

This program is open to the public; Invite those in your circle of friends and family who may benefit from this evening to join us.



Christmas Market

Saturday, November 15th 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM in fellowship hall



Christmas decorations
Hand-carved wooden items
Wreaths
Ornaments
Santas
Soap
Bath Products



Scissor cutting
Candy
Matted photos
Prayer beads
Crocheted items
Soap
Snowmen



Hess trucks
Trains
Hallmark
Puzzles
Snoopy items
Many gift items
And much more!!

Food available for purchase, provided by Deborah Circle



Christmas Gift Cards

The Christmas gift card pre-order form is here!. Please put your name, phone number, and email address at the top of the form. We must receive payment when you order. The last day to order is Nov. 9th. We hope the gift cards will be in the first week of December. If you need a gift card before that we have quite a bit of inventory. Remember the money we make on the sale of gift cards helps the church to pay for trustee projects around the church. You can pick the form up at the gift card desk or on the website. Happy Shopping!



FROM THE PASTOR

Reverend Zachary Hopple



This is the time of year that I love best. The crisp air brings about the need for a sweatshirt, but not yet a coat. The earlier sunset makes stargazing much easier (and agreeable with my bedtime). And the changing color of the trees makes the red leaves that I normally see seem not so odd as everyone who gets a taste of what I see on a regular basis.

November is often seen as a time of thanksgiving. A time where we pause to reflect on what we have and what we've been given. God has blessed each of us individually, and God has blessed us as a church as well. God has given us over 150 years to be in service in this community and make a difference in the lives of many.

As I was thinking about what to write for this month's Evangel, I kept coming back to this scripture from Isaiah 55:1. "Come, all you who are thirsty, come to the waters; and you who have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without cost." In this scripture the prophet is offering an invitation to all people to come to God. It is open to all who are hungry and thirsty - all who are looking for something more and who are not satisfied with what this world has to offer.

While we give thanks for what we have, many people have a void in their lives. They cannot truly be thankful because they realize something is missing. There is something else that they need and they cannot put their finger on it. They cannot figure it out. And so they strive for more and more and are not content with what they find and what they accomplish. They never seem to be truly happy and throw themselves into the pursuit of gaining more.

Jesus fills this void. Jesus gives us hope and purpose. Jesus gives us forgiveness and eternal life. Jesus offers us a life marked with love and acceptance. And all of this is free. All of this is without price. It is open to all who wish to partake. But how can people know about what Jesus has to offer? How can people know it is Jesus that they are missing in their lives?

There was a Christian radio show that I listen to regularly when I drove to work in the mornings many years ago. And the host would often say, "I'm just a beggar telling other beggars where I found bread." This man found God. He found something that changed his life and he turned his life around to become a preacher, author, and seminary professor. And instead of hoarding the knowledge he found about a loving and forgiving God, he wanted to share it with everyone he could.

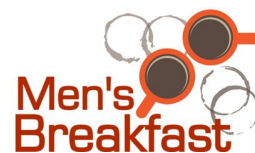
Hopefully Christ UMC has been a place where you have "found bread," a place where your spirit has been nourished as you have grown in your faith and in your walk with God. Hopefully you have seen God at work within our walls, within our ministries, and within all that we do as we strive to reach out into our community and transform lives in the love of Jesus Christ. And if you have, hopefully that excites you. When we are excited about what God is doing in our lives, it should be something we want to share with others. We should want to tell others about the love of Jesus Christ that is bubbling up in our lives. We should be offering the invitation that Isaiah offers, 'Come and eat. It's free!'

I realize that it can be hard to talk about our faith sometimes. It can be hard to talk to friends, relatives, neighbors, or coworkers about what God has done for you personally. But one thing you can do is ask them to come to church with you. Ask them to join you for worship, or even just to check out one of our many small groups. Bring them with you to see how God is moving in our midst and doing amazing things in our community.

These doors are open to all people. Christ's love is for all. It satisfies the thirsty and fills the hungry. The love of Jesus forgives and heals. And people need to know about it. So I encourage you - invite someone to join you for church. Help them get to know the one who can fill the void in their lives. So that all may come to the living waters of Jesus Christ.



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



Deborah Circle Meeting: Monday, November 10th, 11:30 AM

We will be meeting on Monday, November 10th, at 11:30 AM in Room 106 to discuss the Craft Fair at our church on Saturday, November 15th from 9 - 2 PM. Please bring a sandwich or salad and a drink for lunch.

We are looking for baked goods and will have a signup sheet available if you can help in the kitchen. All baked goods can be brought in on Friday evening or at 8 AM on Saturday morning.

Crafts will include Christmas decorations, stained glass, paper crafts, Hallmark items, crocheted items and much more. Money raised will be donated to our various missions.

Any questions, please contact Jean Davis at 267-218-2569 or Gail Scott at 215-368-0476. Please feel free to bring a friend. See you on the 10th!

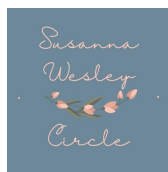
Cooking for Manna

November 6th, 2025, 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: No November meeting, see you at the retreat!

We will not be meeting in November, but will instead plan to attend the retreat! See the flyer later in the Evangel for more information. We also are starting to plan for our Christmas Cookie Sale on December 7th—see the article on the following page!

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 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.

Stitching Sisters

In October, Stitching Sisters collected 175+ hats for Manna on Main Streets fall coat drive. We will meet again on November 13th from 10:00 AM – noon in fellowship hall. We are currently working on small gifts for the mother's of the Angel Tree families. Come and join us.



CHRISTMAS COOKIE SALE IS Coming Soon!!

Sunday, December 7th the church lobby will be filled with delicious homemade cookies sponsored by Susanna Wesley Circle. Cookies will be sold after the 8:30 service as well as before and after the 11 AM service. All proceeds go directly to a local charity or non-profit organization supported by CUMC.

This year, we'll be offering a variety of cookies displayed on a holiday plate for \$9 as well as our standard pre-packed bags containing 6 cookies for \$3. Select your favorite nut free, peanut free, and gluten free items.

Thanks in advance for volunteering to bake! This sale can only happen through our congregation's generosity. Please sign up on the clipboard in the lobby and we will provide bags for you to package the cookies and labels to identify the contents.

Drop off your cookies from 11 - 1 PM on Saturday, Dec. 6th while we arrange the cookies for Sunday's services. If this day and time doesn't work for you, you may drop off cookies in the church office on Thursday, Dec. 4th or Friday, Dec 5th from 9 AM - 2 PM.

Please address questions to:

Wendy Beatty-Burg 267-972-7381 beattyburg@aol.com

Pat Julia 215-896-0329 patbjula@gmail.com

Santa Claus is coming to . . . CUMC!

CUMC will be again hold its annual Breakfast with Santa on **Saturday, December 13th, 2025**, from 8-10:30 AM. Stop by to meet Santa and enjoy pancakes, sausage, and hot chocolate! A gluten-free option will be available. This special family event continues to be affordable for all. This year's cost will be \$3 for adults, \$2 for children 3-12, and children 2 and under are free, with a maximum of \$10 per family. We will also be blessed to be hosting Manna on Main Street and their clients again this year. Stop in for some jolly good fun and fellowship!



As always, we cannot offer this great event without the contributions and dedication of volunteers. So, if you are interested in volunteering, we have many great opportunities. Specifically, we will need:

- Servers (must be in 6th grade or older, with the exception of two 5th graders to serve as the marshmallow distributors)
- Set up crew to transform Fellowship Hall into a winter wonderland on Friday night at 6:30
- Clean up crew to help after the event at 10:30

Whatever your interest and abilities, this event has a place for you! If you are a high school student, you can also receive community service or honor society credit for your help. If you are interested in volunteering, a sign up genius will be available soon, so please check it out. See you there!



Wise words from the Welcome Ministry

When was the last time you "crossed the aisle" during the peace? This is a wonderful time to share the peace of Christ with someone you don't know well, or with a first-time visitor. You may start a conversation that can continue after the service ends.

Grief support events

GriefShare

Many people have found comfort and strength through our GriefShare program. It is a safe place to share your feelings about your loss, knowing that you are surrounded by others who understand. Each GriefShare session is self-contained—you can join at any time through the 13-week cycle. We meet on Wednesdays at 1:30, in the Reichley Room, located next to the church office. Registration fee, that covers the entire program, is \$20—scholarships are available. You can register on our website, www.cumclansdale.org, under events.



Surviving the Holidays

Surviving the Holidays

The holidays often come wrapped in lights, music, and celebration—but if you're grieving the death of a loved one, this season can feel overwhelming, isolating, and painfully different. In fact, it may feel impossible to face this season, or maybe you're wishing you could just hibernate until January. On Monday, November 17th, at 1:30 PM, we'll be offering Surviving the Holidays, a one-time program that offers tips to navigate the upcoming season. There is no charge for this event. We'll meet in the Reichley classroom, located next to the church office.



Friendly Seniors November Meeting, Wednesday, November 19th, 11:00 AM

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas! Or at least it will at the next gathering of the CUMC Friendly Seniors on Wednesday, November 19th at 11:00 in the Fellowship Hall. Connie Barnes of Lansdale United Methodist Church will show us how to make these popular Mason jar candles. They can be used as a centerpiece on a table or as part of a window sill decoration. Better yet, they make great gifts for friends, neighbors or family members, especially at just \$6.00 each! Whether you make one, two or five, plan to come on out and have fun with the gang!

The quart jar on the left features a frosted finish with twinkling fairy lights inside. The pint jar on the right is illuminated by a battery-powered tea light.

Besides the craft, we will enjoy a potluck and conversation around the table. Feel free to bring any entrée, side, salad, or dessert to share. Friends are always welcome!

Please use the paper sign-up sheet at the kiosk in the church narthex or the online sign-up by November 12 to indicate how many are coming & which candle – or both! – you are interested in decorating so we have enough supplies.

The Mustard Seed Garden



The Mustard Seed Garden has closed for the season! Thank you to our many volunteers who help us tend the garden: pulling weeds, watering the plants, picking our produce, and dropping off our donations. We are always looking for more volunteers, and are looking for someone to take over as head gardener for next season. This person would need to be over 18 yrs. old, would help organize the garden and coordinate the volunteers, and ideally loves plants, being outdoors, and loves our mission. Interested? Call the church office: 215-855-1643

MISSION of the Month November 2025

November Mission of the Month: Heifer International

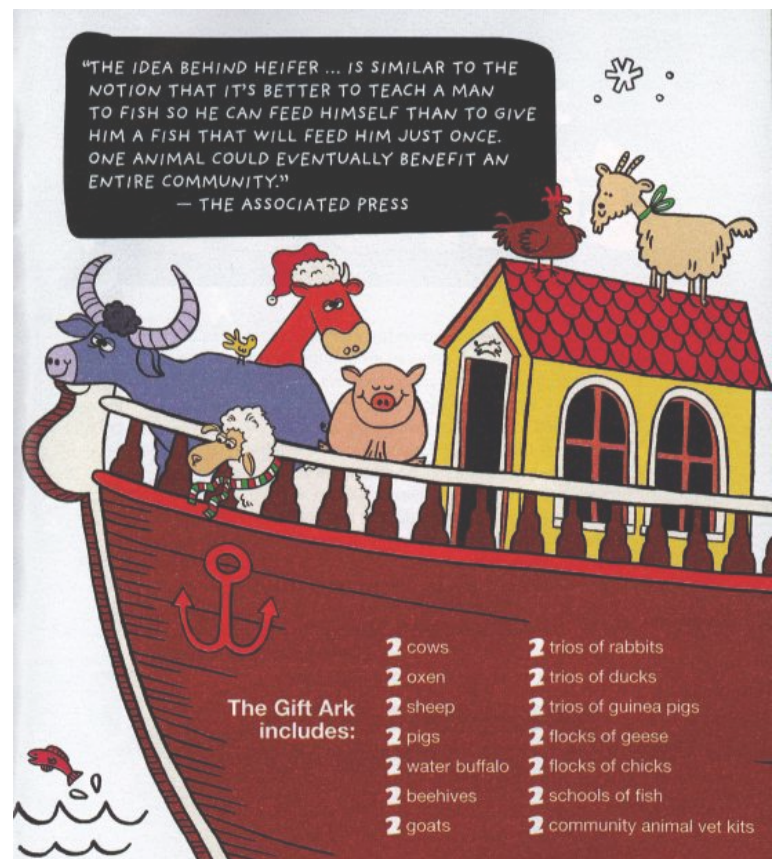
The Mission of the Month for November is Heifer International. Heifer International is working to end hunger and poverty while caring for the Earth. They gift livestock, training, tools, and resources to families in need. Animals give families things to eat, like milk, eggs, and honey. Training helps families learn how to keep their animals healthy. Families also learn how to create businesses to sell the extra products from their animals. The goal is to give families hope, a source of income, and a brighter future. Since 2012, Heifer has partnered with farmers across 4 continents and 19 countries, helping 4 million households.

Heifer has a philosophy called "Passing On the Gift." Families that receive a lifesaving animal from Heifer will give the first female offspring to another community member, and in addition will pass on everything they learn from Heifer about caring for it. On average, a gift made to a family in need is passed down nine more times!

During the month of November, all donations for Mission of the Month will be used to purchase a variety of animals, which could include heifers, water buffalo, sheep, goats, ducks, or pigs.

Our Children and Youth Sunday School classes will participate as well, by collecting funds for the "buy one get two chicks and bees" promotion. A purchase of a honeybee and chicks bundle for \$50 will provide two families with both chickens and bees so they can use and sell the honey and eggs.

Please check out the Heifer display on the missions bulletin board in the narthex to see pictures of the animals, and explanations of how they can benefit the families who receive them.



Food Drive Collection, 2025

Jan - unknown	Apr - 260	Jul - 254	Oct -
Feb - 148 lbs	May - 184	Aug -	Nov -
Mar - 294 lbs	Jun - 192	Sep -	Dec -





Preschool Express is blessed to be having a wonderful October full of learning and friendship!

This month we celebrated our community heroes with visits from our local police and firefighters! We are also having some spooky science fun studying bats, spiders and pumpkins! Our three and four year olds are super excited for their upcoming field trips to the farm to learn about beekeeping and fall harvests. Miss Sherry has taught us lots of new songs at music class and we will be performing them at our Halloween parade! We also loved the chance to partner with our CUMC friends for Trunk or Treat! What a BOOtiful month of fun!

Preschool
News



FINANCIAL REPORT

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

Total Revenue

Sep 2025	YTD
\$ 41,196.37	\$ 428,569.22

Expenditures

Total 4000 Missions

\$ 8,226.19	\$ 77,075.21
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Total 5000 Programs

\$ 3,972.80	\$ 23,152.90
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Total 6000 Salaries and Benefits

\$ 28,820.80	\$ 259,952.50
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Total 7000 Property, Maintenance & Utility

\$ 8,992.99	\$ 80,002.18
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Total Expenditures

\$ 50,012.78	\$ 440,182.79
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Net Revenue

-\$ 8,816.41	-\$ 11,613.57
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Dear Members and Friends of CUMC,

Shown above is a summary of our church financial report for the month of September and Year-To-Date. Operating Budget income for September was \$41,196 and expenses were \$50,013, giving a deficit for the month of \$8,816. Year-To-Date, we have an \$11,614 deficit in our Operating Budget. Not shown above is the \$2,733 received in August for the Mission of the Month (The Ronald McDonald House).

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



Wreaths Across America: December 13th, 12:00 PM at the Orvilla Road Cemetery

Join us for our 2nd annual Wreaths Across America ceremony and laying of wreaths for all of our veterans at the Orvilla Road Cemetery! We will bless and pray for those who have served, The ceremony will also include a time to read their names and toll a bell of remembrance in acknowledgement of their service and sacrifice. To conclude the ceremony, wreaths will be placed upon the graves of each veteran in our cemetery. We encourage your participation in this event—please invite those close to you for this time of remembrance.

We are in need of sponsorships of wreaths for our cemetery! You can visit the Wreaths across America website and navigate to the sponsorship page, or find the link on the church website. Once you select your sponsorship, you are able to donate wreaths to a specific location—the code for CUMC's cemetery is PACUOR. Each wreath is \$17; we are looking for 30 wreaths! Join us in celebrating and honoring our veterans across the country for all they have given to us and our country!



**Children Pre-k through 12th grade:
Sign-up to be in the Sunday School**

Christmas Pageant **Sunday, December 7, 9:45 a.m.**

The pageant needs townspeople, angels, shepherds, innkeepers, sheep, kings, prophets, narrators, and stage crew!

Rehearsals

- Sunday, Nov 9th 12 - 2 pm (lunch provided)
- Sunday, Nov 16th 12 - 2 pm (lunch provided)
- Sunday, Nov 30th 12 - 2 pm (lunch provided)
- Saturday, Dec 6th 9-11 am (dress rehearsal)



Children will enjoy taking part in the action, music, drama, and the pageantry as the traditional Christmas story unfolds with a few new twists and turns, cameo appearances, and a bit of humor. If your child would like to participate, or for more information, please contact Nanci Landes at nanci.landescumclansdale.org.



2025 Women's Retreat



November 7th-November 9th
Gretna Glen Camp & Retreat Center
Lebanon, PA

From Wonderful to Woeful: Women of the Bible

All women of Christ UMC as well as friends and neighbors are welcome to attend a weekend of rest and renewal at camp Gretna Glen. The retreat is a way to foster fellowship among women who desire to grow closer to God. The theme of the retreat will be From Wonderful to Woeful: Women of the Bible. Each session will focus on a different woman of the Bible and how her story might impact our faith. This year the leadership team includes: Jen Hopple, Marge Kramer, Jeanmarie Loss, Pam Nicholson, Diana Ricci, and Pastor Tawny.

Cost Information:

\$175 for two nights | \$55 for the day

You can stay both Friday and Saturday night with meals provided all day Saturday and breakfast and lunch on Sunday OR you can come just for the day and enjoy all the great sessions and lunch and dinner on Saturday! Either way, there will be numerous opportunities for bible study, fellowship, outdoor activities, worship services, and more!

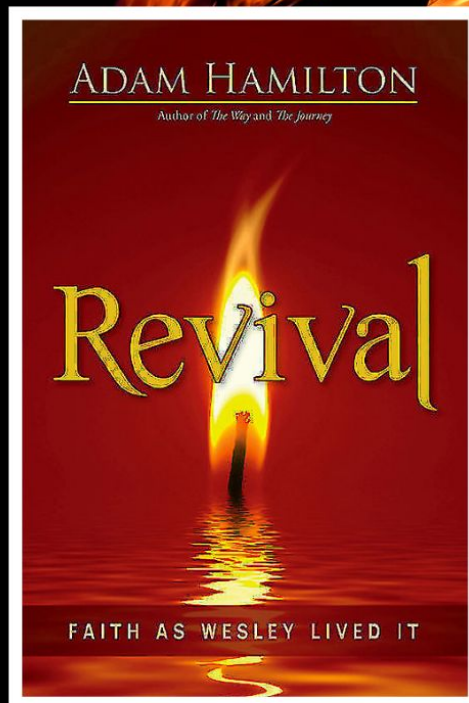
We don't want the cost to deter anyone from coming, so please speak to Pastor Tawny confidentially (tawny.bernhardt@cumclansdale.org) if there are any concerns.

If you have any questions about the retreat, please reach out to any of the retreat leaders.

2025 MEN'S RETREAT

NOVEMBER 7-9 | CAMP INNABAH | SPRING CITY, PA

The 14th Annual Men's Retreat will be held at Camp Innabah for a 4-part program inspired by Adam Hamilton's *Revival: Faith as Wesley Lived It*. Phil Newcomer—attorney, life-long Methodist, preacher's kid, Christ Servant Minister, and member of Jarrettown UMC (where his wife, Dorry, serves as the pastor!)—will be leading the weekend for all to learn how the example of John Wesley, the founder of the Methodist movement, can ignite a new flame of faith within all.



We hope you will join us and invite others to attend with you!

To register, contact Ed Hartmann, edhart3399@gmail.com | (215)-896-3399



Cost (includes meals):

Whole Weekend: \$155 | One Night: \$135 | Saturday Only: \$75

Susanna Welsey Circle packs food at Bean Bag Food Project...



...and enjoys a
time of fellowship at
the Metropolitan Diner

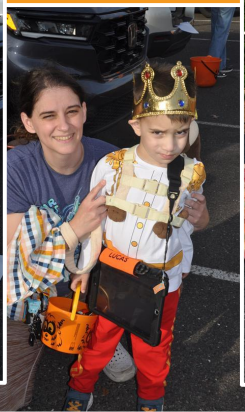
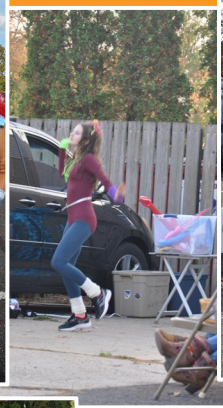


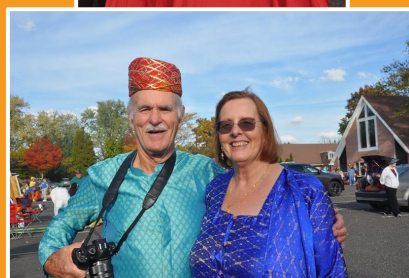
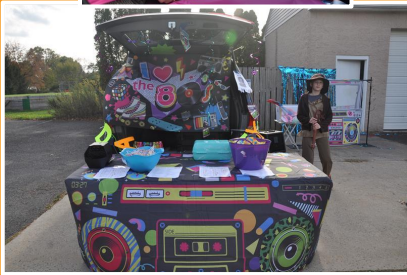
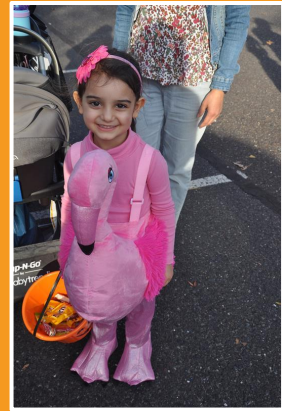
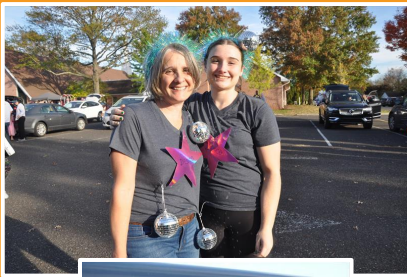


Children's Sunday
bringing storm vibes!



Trunk
or
Treat







Thursday, November 20th

Red Cross Blood Drive, 10 AM - 3 PM

Thursday, November 27th

Thanksgiving

(Church office closed through 11/30)



Sunday, November 30th

Advent Begins



Sunday, December 7th

Children's Christmas Pageant



Saturday, December 13th

Santa Breakfast

Wreaths Across America (at Orvilla Rd. Cemetery)



Sunday, December 14th

Christmas Concert



Wednesday, December 24th

Christmas Eve

(Church office closed through 12/28)



Wednesday, December 31st

New Year's Eve

(Church office closed 1/1)



Calendar Highlights

- 11/2 All Saints Sunday
Daylight Savings Time ends
- 11/3 Staff Meeting
Perky Promenaders*
- 11/4 Election Day
Fall Short-term Book Study Begins*
Bible Reading Group*
Kaleidoscope Group*
Jazz Group Rehearsal*
- 11/5 GriefShare*
Various Music Group Rehearsals*
- 11/6 Cooking for Manna
Healing Prayer Training*
Adult Praise Band Rehearsal*
- 11/7 Laudate Ringers Rehearsal*
Men's & Women's Retreats (through 11/9)
- 11/9 Christmas Pageant Rehearsal*
Youth Bell & Choir Rehearsals
Youth Group
- 11/10 Deborah Circle
Santa Breakfast Meeting
- 11/12 Men's Breakfast Group
Endowment Meeting
- 11/13 Stitching Sisters
Board of Trustees Meeting
- 11/14 Christmas Market Set Up
- 11/15 Annual Christmas Market
- 11/17 Staff Meeting
Surviving the Holidays
Dementia Program
- 11/18 Finance Meeting
- 11/19 Friendly Seniors Meeting
- 11/20 Red Cross Blood Drive
- 11/23 Manna Food Drive
Youth Bell & Choir Rehearsal
Youth Group Drop-In
NO Christmas Pageant Rehearsal
- 11/25 Church Council Meeting
- 11/27 Thanksgiving
Church Office Closed (through 11/30)
- 12/1 Staff Meeting
- 12/4 Cooking for Manna
- 12/6 Christmas Pageant Dress Rehearsal
- 12/7 Christmas Pageant
Christmas Cookie Sale

Join us for Sunday Worship!

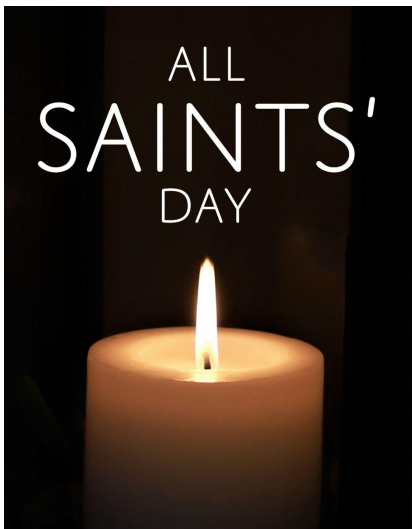
>8:30 AM: In-person, communion every week

>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

* 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