



Christ Evangel

Volume 62, Issue 11, 2026

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



College & Military Boxes

We have about 15 college students that we will be sending college boxes to the week of November 2nd. We will pack the boxes November 1st during the Sunday School hour at 9:45 AM. If you can help us with items for the boxes, we will be collecting the following until the Sunday School hour on Nov. 1st: popcorn, hot

chocolate, nuts, gum, fruit roll-ups, pretzel stix, crackers, cookies, slim jims, dried fruit, granola bars, and any extra Halloween 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's address into the church office.



Christmas Gift Cards

♪ It's that time of year! ♪ ...Or at least time to plan for it! Our Christmas Gift Card order forms are now available! If you plan to do Christmas shopping, or plan to give gift cards, make this your first stop! 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. We have quite a range of options: Amazon, Walmart, Dunkin', Starbucks, Barnes & Noble, Roblox, Best Buy, Nintendo eShop, Doordash, Yankee Candle... the list goes on! Check it out and submit your order to the church office by Sunday, November 8th!



Scan the QR Code to get the Christmas Gift Card Order Form or stop by the church office or gift card table for a paper copy! All proceeds go toward our Built to Grow, Called to Serve projects.



Christmas Market



Saturday, November 21st 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM in Fellowship Hall
Many crafters & vendors!

🎁 Christmas Decorations
🎁 Wreaths
🎁 Ornaments
🎁 Santas
🎁 Hand-Crafted Wooden Items
🎁 Matted Photo Prints

🎁 Scissor Cutting
🎁 Paper Crafting
🎁 Homemade Candy
🎁 Gift Items
🎁 Jewelry
🎁 Dolls
🎁 And much more!!!

🎁 Crocheted Items
🎁 Prayer Beads
🎁 Hallmark
🎁 Puzzles
🎁 Toys
🎁 Painted Slates

Food available for purchase, provided by Deborah Circle



FROM THE PASTOR

Rev. Dr. Zachary Hopple



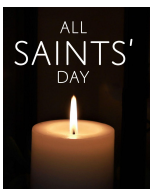
When I graduated this past spring, I received the Hoyt Hickman United Methodist Worship Award, given through the Order of St. Luke. As a result, I was invited on the Order's annual retreat in October. It was an interesting experience. The Order of St. Luke is devoted to sacramental and liturgical scholarship, education, and practice, and they magnify the sacraments and promote the corporate worship of the Church. A full day of the retreat included five opportunities for prayer and worship, one of which included Communion. Our speaker was the director of the retreat center who spoke about the Passionists (the order with which the retreat center is affiliated), and the various aspects of the Passion Week leading up to and through the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. Our prayer and worship time reflected Holy Week as portions of each day focused on a different day of the week, concluding with a pseudo-Easter egg hunt as we left morning prayer on the last day of the retreat.

I was humbled as I sat around the table and chatted with people who literally wrote the books on the United Methodist understanding of Communion, Baptism, and worship. While Hoyt Hickman passed away ten years ago, I sat with people who knew him as a friend, had him as a professor, or served alongside him. (You may have noticed I quoted his books quite a bit during our sermon series on worship this summer.) I was amazed by their desire and thirst to know more and more about God and their faith - to study, learn, and grow in their understanding. There was a fount of knowledge and understanding already present at that retreat that was deeper than I could have ever imagined, and I felt that I was thrown into the deep end of it.

Proverbs 2:1-15 encourages us to seek after wisdom and cry out for insight and understanding (v. 2-3). God is happy to give us that insight and understanding that we seek (v. 4-6). It leads to the fear of the Lord, which is a healthy honor and respect for who God is. It protects us and provides a way for us to understand righteousness, justice, equity, and every good path (v. 8-10), and it will save us from falling into sin and temptation (v. 11-15).

I heard several times throughout the week the leaders remind those who were attending the retreat for the first time that "we do not take ourselves too seriously, but we take worship very seriously." There is grace for us. We are able to be who we are and be the people who God called us to be, yet still hold God up with the reverence God deserves. Seeking to understand God better will change us to a life lived in worship and service to God through serving others. But it starts with a desire to want to know God more.

I encourage you to fuel that desire. Look for ways to study more about God and your faith. Look for ways to understand how you can love God more, worship God more deeply, and strive to respond to God's love in a way that will share that love with those around you. If you need help in finding ways to do so, please reach out to me. I would love to talk to you about your questions or concerns, or my experiences from the retreat. We are all on this path of life together, and we need to encourage one another to deepen our relationship with God. May God bless you and strengthen you this month. And may you feel God's grace, mercy, and love each and every day.



All Saints Day Names

If you plan to worship online or will be away on Nov., 1st, please email the office or call and give the office the names of anyone you want recognized at the All Saints' Sunday service before Friday, October 30th at 1:00 PM. Submitting names ahead of time will help us ensure that your loved one's presence is remembered during this special service. See

the weekly emails for more details.



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 this month due to the Christmas Market

We will not be meeting this month because we will be helping out with the Craft Fair on Saturday, November 21st from 9:00 to 2:00 PM.

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 8:00 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. Hope to see you on the 21st!!!!

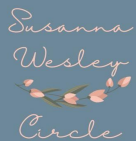
Cooking for Manna

November 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.



Susanna Wesley Circle: No November Meeting

SWC will not be meeting in November—instead, join us at the Women's Retreat from Nov.6-8! In December, we will host our annual Christmas Cookie Sale—see the Christmas Cookie article for more information!

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 have been busy lately. We continue to keep up a supply of Prayer Shawls and Baby Blankets for the Pastor and Caring Committee visits. We are making a new supply of prayer squares for Marge Kramer. Look for these pocket sized crosses in the narthex as you exit the church. We have made 73 Port Pillows for outpatient chemotherapy patients at Reading Hospital to protect their port from seatbelts. And Sharon Moran and two friends at Dock have made 180 hats for Manna to be handed out at the fall coat drive. Busy hands!

Our next meeting is Nov. 12th from 10 AM till noon in Fellowship Hall. Come join us for fellowship and mission work.



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 16th, 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.



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.



Friendly Seniors November Meeting: Nov. 18th, 12 PM in Fellowship Hall

Friendly Seniors invites anyone 55 and older to join us on November 18th at 12 PM for a presentation on fire safety by Bill Oettinger, Towamencin's Fire Marshal. Bill has a lot of important tips and safety information, and he shares them in a very engaging way! Pack a lunch so that we can eat together at noon and Bill will begin his presentation at 12:30. Let us know if you plan to attend so that we have enough seats for everyone. Sign up online or at the kiosk in the lobby by the door.



The Christmas Cookie Sale is coming to our CUMC Lobby on Dec 6th!

Homemade Christmas Cookies will be available to purchase after the 8:30 AM service and before and after the 11 AM service. This is a favorite event of the Susanna Wesley Circle because we share our proceeds with local charity or non-profit organizations. This year our recipients will be **The Baby Bureau** in Warminster and **Tails of Valor, Paws of Honor** in Coopersburg.



We can only do this with the kindness of our congregation. Please sign-up to bake so we can help others this holy holiday season. There will be a sign-up sheet in the Narthex as well as a SignUpGenius on the church website.

To simplify the process this year we will not be handing out bags/twist ties/labels. We are asking bakers to place their cookies in Ziploc bags and label the contents with a sharpie or label. There should be 6 cookies in each bag which we sell for \$3.00. We plan on a great variety of cookies including pre-made plates, mini-breads, nut free, peanut free, and gluten free cookies to be part of the available goodies.

Questions? Contact Pat Julia (215-896-0329, patbjula@gmail.com) or Wendy Beatty-Burg (267-972-7381, beattyburg@aol.com)

MISSION of the Month November 2026

November Mission of the Month: Lansdale Code Blue Shelters

Charity is an act of kindness towards others who are less fortunate. It is a selfless act that can make a difference in someone's life.

Code Blue has been in operation for seventeen seasons providing help to those in need of temporary emergency shelter and the chronically homeless during times of extreme winter weather. Code Blue operates two donated locations at Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church and the Lansdale Parks and Recreation Building. This mission is supported by donations of time, clothing, and food from individuals, local stores, and restaurants.



Code Blue offers:

- Food, shelter, and clothing for both men and women during times of extreme weather (below 32 degrees Fahrenheit.)
- A safe, welcoming environment.
- Follow-up with other county agencies to help individual men and women who need more assistance after they leave the shelters.
- Over 190 background-checked volunteers for 1,700 shifts and 5,200 hours, aiding over 150 guests per week.
- Accommodations begin at 7:30 PM to 8:30 AM. This includes intake with dinner, overnight arrangements, and breakfast.

By helping these men and women in need, we are fulfilling Jesus's teaching in Matthew 25:40: "Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."

Your prayers and financial support will help this vital mission to continue its work of supporting the people in our community when they need it the most.

There will be a representative in the Narthex after church to discuss this mission and provide information about volunteer opportunities.

Food Drive Collection, 2026

Jan - 56 lbs	Apr - 300 lbs	Jul - 376 lbs	Oct -
Feb - 314 lbs	May - Unknown	Aug - 188 lbs	Nov -
Mar - 215 lbs	Jun - Unknown	Sep - 200 lbs	Dec -



Preschool Express News

Our little turkeys have been gobbling up the learning at Preschool Express this fall! Our farm field trips were an absolute blast, and our Halloween parade was simply boo-tiful! As we head into November, we are counting our blessings and filling our days with so much joy!



In addition to learning all about God's love at chapel with Pastor Tawny, our preschoolers are enjoying high energy gym class, singing their hearts out with Miss Sherry, and discovering natural wonder with Miss Angela at STEM time! We are loving our new Learning Without Tears curriculum and we loved our very first Pizza Day even more!

This month, as we continue to feast on the fun and learning each day, we say an extra thank you to our CUMC family who make our magical little preschool possible! We are so blessed!

🌲🌟 Santa Breakfast is coming - let's celebrate! 🌟👴

Mark your calendars to attend a joyful morning full of pancakes, laughter, and holiday magic. Enjoy breakfast together and a special visit from Santa — ready for smiles and photos!



CUMC's annual Breakfast with Santa will be held on **Saturday, December 12, 2026**, from 8 AM to 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: \$3 for adults, \$2 for children 3-12, children 2 and under are free - with a maximum cost of only \$10 per family. We will also be blessed to be hosting Manna on Main Street clients again this year. Plan on stopping 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, 12/11, at 6:30 PM
- 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!



FINANCIAL REPORT

**Christ United Methodist Church
Profit & Loss Budget Performance
September 2026**

	Sep-26	YTD
Revenue		
Total Revenue	\$ 45,644.07	\$ 451,548.98
Expenditures		
Total 4000 Missions	\$ 8,797.15	\$ 83,708.23
Total 5000 Programs	\$ 2,061.09	\$ 23,501.25
Total 6000 Salaries and Benefits	\$ 31,386.27	\$ 274,351.91
Total 7000 Property, Maintenance & Utility	\$ 10,169.25	\$ 111,881.80
Total Expenditures	\$ 52,413.76	\$ 493,443.19
Net Operating Revenue	\$ (6,769.69)	\$ (41,894.21)

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 in July was \$45,644.07 and expenses were \$52,413.76, giving a deficit for the month of (\$6769.69). Year-to-Date Operating Budget income is \$451,548.98, expenses are \$493,443.19, giving an overall Operating Budget deficit of (\$41,894.21). We thank you for your continued financial support of our church and its ministries. CUMC Finance Committee



Choir Dedication Sunday



dear pastor Zachary
and Jean,

Sept. 2026

All of us @ Family Promise extend
our heartfelt thanks for your continued
support. You ARE angels, serving other
angels indeed! With love and gratitude,

amy
Pw
Debbie
Jen
Meaghan

Thank You Notes from Recent Recipients of CUMC's Mission Outreach

Family Promise: Christ UMC's
support for Family Promise
enables them to help local
families experiencing
homelessness and hunger. Our
support is much appreciated.

**Rodney Ragwan
(International Ministries):**
International Ministries
was our August Mission of
the Month and our
financial support will
allow International
Ministries' work to
continue and expand.



October 7, 2026

Dear Friends,

Grace and peace to you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

I am writing to express my heartfelt gratitude for your generous gift of \$1,860 toward my support as a Global Theological Educator with International Ministries. Your kindness and generosity are a tremendous encouragement to me and a tangible reminder of God's provision through His people.

Please know that your gift will make a meaningful difference in the lives of pastors, ministry leaders, and churches around the world. Through theological education, leadership development, discipleship, and evangelism, I have the privilege of helping equip men and women for faithful and effective ministry in their local contexts. Your partnership enables this work to continue and expand.

What makes your gift especially meaningful is that it reflects the broader unity of Christ's Church. Although we come from different denominational traditions, we share a common commitment to advancing the gospel and strengthening the body of Christ. I am deeply grateful for your willingness to invest in this ministry. As I work alongside partners in various parts of the world, I regularly witness how sound biblical training strengthens leaders, enriches churches, and helps believers engage their communities with the hope of Christ. Your generosity is helping make these opportunities possible.

Thank you for your faithful support, your prayers, and your commitment to God's mission. May the Lord richly bless your congregation as you continue to serve Him and bear witness to His love in your community and beyond.

With sincere appreciation and gratitude,

Rev. Rodney Ragwan, DMin., Ph.D.

Global Servant

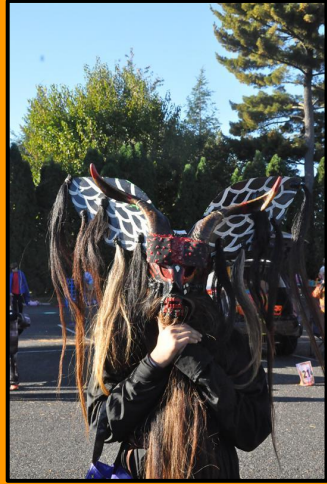
International Ministries

610.547.1127

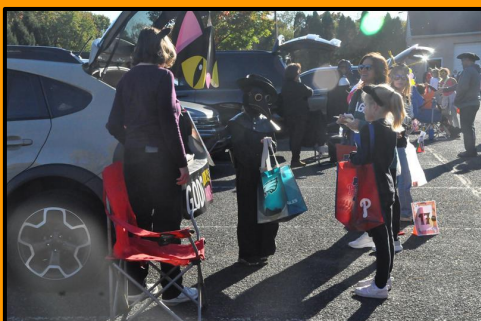
rragwan@internationalministries.org <https://www.internationalministries.org/author/rodney-ragwan/>



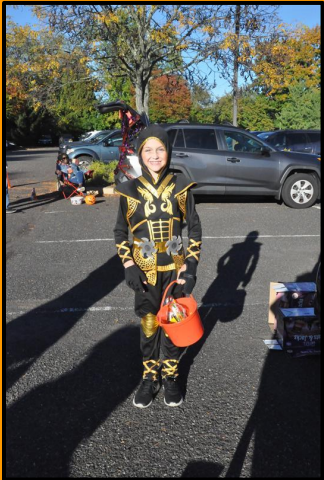
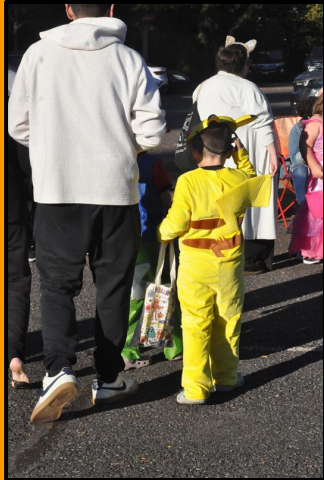
Trunk or Treat 2026





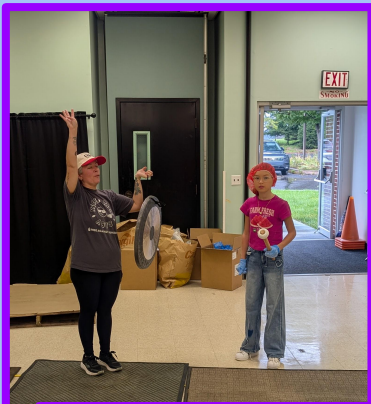












Rise Against Hunger Meal Packing



2026
Women's
Tea



Feat.
Tails of Valor,
Paws of Honor

N



NOVEMBER

Calendar Highlights

- 11/1 All Saints Day
Daylight Savings Time ends (Fall Back!)
- 11/2 Perky Promenaders*
- 11/3 Election Day
Christmas Pageant Rehearsal
Mens Reading Group*
Short-term Bible Study*
Kaleidoscope Group*
Jazz Group Rehearsal*
- 11/4 GriefShare*
Gloria Dei Rehearsal*
Chancel Choir Rehearsal*
- 11/5 Healing Prayer Training*
Alleluia Ringers Rehearsal*
Cooking for Manna
Adult Praise Band Rehearsal*
- 11/6 Laudate Ringers Rehearsal*
Men's Retreat (through 11/8)
Women's Retreat (through 11/8)
- 11/8 Jesus Jammerz/Grace Notes Rehearsal*
Melody Chimes Rehearsal*
Carol Choir Rehearsal*
Youth Group
- 11/10 Staff Meeting
Charge Conference
- 11/11 Men's Breakfast Group
Endowment Meeting
- 11/12 Stitching Sisters
Board of Trustees Meeting
- 11/13 Caregivers' Monthly Meeting
- 11/16 GriefShare Surviving the Holidays
Santa Breakfast Meeting
- 11/17 Evening Fellowship
Finance Meeting
- 11/18 Friendly Seniors
- 11/19 Red Cross Blood Drive
- 11/20 Christmas Market Set Up (FH closed)
- 11/21 Christmas Market
- 11/22 Manna Food Drive
Youth Group
- 11/24 Staff Meeting
Church Council Meeting
- 11/26 Thanksgiving (Office closed until 11/30)
- 11/30 Santa Breakfast Meeting

Looking Ahead in 2026

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



Thursday, December 24th
Christmas Eve



Thursday, December 31st
New Year's Eve



** Denotes Weekly meeting*

Note: All meetings are subject to change.

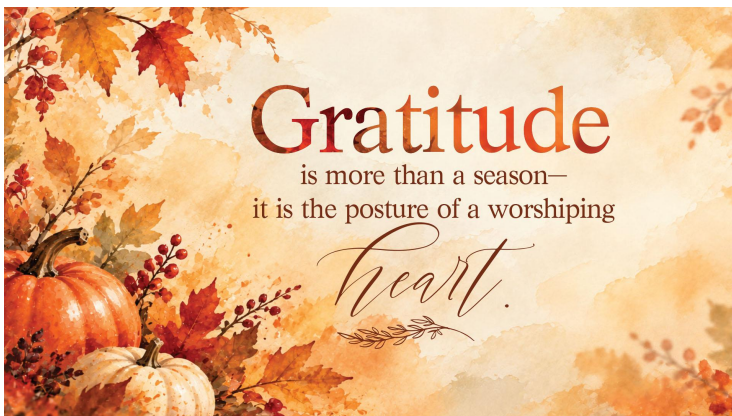
Join us for Sunday Worship!

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



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