

The Chi-Rho

January 2026



Christ Lutheran Church

29 S. George Street, York, Pa. 17401

Join us Sundays in person or on our Facebook
page at 10:00am.

[www.facebook.com/Christ Lutheran Church
York, Pennsylvania](https://www.facebook.com/Christ Lutheran Church York, Pennsylvania)

Our Mission:

Reflect God's love in the heart of York.

Our Vision:

To be a vibrant congregation in the
heart of York praising God,
connecting people to Christ,
and serving the people of York
and the world.

*Companions with the Itete Hospital
of the Konde Diocese,
Evangelical Lutheran Church of Tanzania*



January Readings

January 4

Christmas 2

Jeremiah 31:7-14

Psalm 147:12-20

Ephesians 1:3-14

John 1:1-18

January 11

Baptism of Our Lord

Isaiah 42:1-9

Psalm 29

Acts 10:34-43

Matthews 3:13-17

January 18

Epiphany 2

Isaiah 49:1-7

Psalm 40:1-11

1 Corinthians 1:1-9

John 1:29-42

January 25

Epiphany 3

Isaiah 9:1-4

Psalm 27:1, 4-9

1 Corinthians 1:10-18

Matthew 4:12-23



JANUARY

Blood Pressure Checks

Sunday, January 4, after worship

Youth and Family Meeting

Sunday, January 11th, after worship

Finance Meeting

Monday, January 12, 7:00pm

Guys Night Out

Tuesday, January 13, 6:00pm

Devotions

Wednesday, January 14th, 12:15 in the chapel

Congregational Meeting

Sunday, January 18, after worship in the Nave

Community Meal

Sunday, January 25, 12:00pm



From The Pastor's Pen

FROM THE INTERIM PASTOR'S DESK:

As I write this, I have been your new interim pastor for just over two weeks now. Suffice it to say that I really appreciate the warm and gracious welcome you have extended to me. The staff, to be sure, have been most helpful in terms of aiding me in getting up-and-running here. It is indeed good to be present among you!

Something that I have offered my congregations going clear back to my early years serving St. Matthew in Hanover, is mid-week devotions. The purpose of the devotional time together is to give participants time to give thanks to God for blessings received thus far in the week and to pray for God's guidance through the remainder of the week.

The devotions last about twenty minutes and are comprised of prayer, scripture reading, a very brief homily, and some silent meditation. I offer and lead the devotions on Wednesdays from 12:15 – 12:35 in the chapel. All members and friends of Christ church are cordially invited to attend. And feel free to come whenever you can make it. This is not a cumulative type of program where you are out-of-the-loop if you miss a session(s). The devotions begin on January 14.

But, of course, before that comes Christmas! I am excited about spending the holidays with you. We will have worship services on December 24 at 5:00 and 8:00 (this later service will be preceded by a prelude beginning at 7:30.) During the Christmas season of twelve days, we will roll out the carpet and eagerly celebrate the birth of our Lord in a manger in Bethlehem a couple of millenniums ago. As we do so, we will keep in mind the angel's words that "to you is born this day in the city of David, a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. (Luke 2:11) This Savior, Messiah, Lord came into the world in love and makes all the difference in our lives – lives we live in hope as we eagerly do the Lord's work in this time and place.

God bless all of you. Again, I am pleased to be with you. May all of you have a safe and joyous holiday season!

Pastor Dan



Thank you to all who donated items for Advent.

Than Angel Tree, as always, was very successful.

New this year were the gifts for our child care children. The parents were very appreciative for the help that you gave to make their child's Christmas a little brighter.

Of course once again you stepped up to donate items for the Advent Giving campaign. These items will be very helpful to someone in need.

Lastly, thanks to all who helped with the community meals. It's a big job and more hands make light work.

Message from Church Council President

Members of Christ Lutheran Church,

As we begin a new year together, I would like to share several important updates and opportunities within our congregation.

First, I would like to highlight the introduction of the Maria Beyer Legacy. Larry Young spoke about this meaningful initiative during worship a few Sundays ago. The Maria Beyer Legacy is designed to streamline the process for congregation members who wish to include Christ Lutheran Church in their living will or estate plans. To provide additional information and answer questions, Larry will be available during the coffee hour on **Sunday, January 4th**, for an informal Q&A. I encourage anyone interested to take advantage of this opportunity to learn more.

Second, I am pleased to share exciting news from our Youth and Family Committee. It was recommended to council and officially approved to hire Alexa Sheaffer as Christ Lutheran's new Family and Youth Coordinator. Alexa has been a long-time member of our congregation, and we are grateful for her willingness to step into this role. We are excited to welcome her on board as she facilitates and guides our youth education and family ministries.

Lastly, I kindly ask that all congregation members mark their calendars for our Annual Congregational Meeting on Sunday, January 18th, immediately following the 10:00 a.m. service in the Nave. This meeting is an important opportunity to reflect on the past year and look ahead together. I hope to see everyone there.

God Bless,
Keith Stoltzfus
Council President

Christ Church feeds those in need in York

“Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink?...Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.’ (Matthew 25:37, 40)

We help the needy in York along with St. Matthew's Lutheran with donations of food each month. Canned goods and other non-perishable food placed in the big brown boxes in the parlor and by the choir room are taken to the food pantry monthly at St. Paul's. Please bring your gifts for our brothers and sisters in York regularly. The need does not end with the holidays.

Thanks and blessings,
Jay Stevens



Children & Youth Ministry



Youth & Family Committee Update

The Youth & Family Committee sincerely thanks everyone who made our December events such a joy for our community. Your generosity and time created a welcoming First Friday event, complete with free hot chocolate, cookies, games, hats and scarves, a cozy atmosphere, and the Advent story shared with our York City neighbors.

We are especially grateful to the Prayer Shawl Group for the hats and scarves, to the Fellowship Committee for donating delicious goodies—especially Cindy Cooley—for organizing, and to all volunteers for your energy and time. On December 21st, our Sunday School families decorated cookies for our childcare Staff and then went Christmas Caroling at Sprenkle Village. We're deeply grateful to Marty Olson for baking cookies and making the icing. These meaningful moments of fellowship and outreach truly embodied the joy of the season.

Looking ahead, the Youth & Family Committee will plan our 2026 events at our next meeting on January 11th. We welcome your ideas, prayers, and continued support.

Finally, we are delighted to share that the committee has recommended, and church council has agreed to hiring Alexa Sheaffer as Youth & Family Coordinator. After two years of reorganizing our committee and programming, we are excited to move forward by recommending a daughter of our congregation for this role.

Alexa brings nearly a decade of experience working with children at Christ Lutheran Church, an associate degree in Early Childhood Education, strong organizational and administrative skills, and a deep commitment to nurturing faith, connection, and community. We are confident she will be a wonderful asset as we continue to grow and strengthen our ministry with youth and families. Our Youth and Family Committee stands committed to support her in this new role and help her to be successful.

With gratitude,
The Youth & Family Committee

Child of the Month



This month our child spotlight is on Alexis! Alexis is one of our adorable young toddlers. She loves playing with her friends, and coming in to see her teachers every morning. Alexis also loves playing with baby dolls, building with blocks, learning new songs (both in English & Spanish), and being a teachers helper.

Attention Please:

Winter is here in full swing, and so are our little runny noses... tissue donations are always welcome and appreciated!

Our center is also always in need of your snack donations. Some of the snacks our children love are goldfish, cheezits, graham crackers, animal crackers, and veggie sticks. Your donations and support of our center are greatly appreciated.

CHURCH OFFICE/STAFF/ CHILD CARE SNOW/BAD WEATHER POLICY:



Again, this year (winter 2025-2026), the church office, childcare center, will follow the York City Schools Cancellation/Delay Policy (Monday through Friday). If the York City Schools have a delay, cancellation or early dismissal due to snow/bad weather, then the office staff, and childcare center will do the same. On snow/bad weather days, the property department will be in contact with the snow removal contractor to do sidewalk and parking lot clearing/salt application. Any evening activities that are on the calendar when a snow/bad weather occurs, could possibly be cancelled or delayed. Always check with the pastor or contact person for the activity before coming to the church.

For Sunday services, after assessing the weather condition, the pastor and council president will determine whether the church services will be cancelled or delayed. This information will be communicated through a voice message on the office phone, an email blast, and relayed to WGAL 8 for display on the WGAL 8 website (WGAL.com) and/or possible television broadcast.



END OF MONTH GIVING REPORT

November 2025 Report

Actual envelope giving for the month	34,388
<u>Budgeted envelope giving for the month</u>	<u>27,500</u>
Monthly surplus in envelope giving	6,888
YTD actual envelope giving	276,740
<u>YTD budgeted envelope giving</u>	<u>302,500</u>
YTD deficit in envelope giving	-25,760

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Council Members

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Adreinne Brenner - Vice President
Tom Keller - Treasurer
Cindy Cooley- Secretary
Marc Gross
Tom Gross
Rochelle Nyman
Tom Olson
Alexa Sheaffer
Hank Stienhilber
Jen Vanada
Leslee Yoder