

The Chi-Rho
September 2026



Christ Lutheran Church

29 S. George Street, York, Pa. 17401
Join us Sundays for worship at 10:00am.

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*

September Readings

September 6

Pentecost 15

Jeremiah 31:16-20

Psalms 89:19-28

James 5:13-20

Matthew 6:9-13

September 13

Pentecost 16

Exodus 3:7-16

Psalms 8

Philippians 2:5-11

Matthew 18:18-20

September 20

Pentecost 17

Exodus 16:2-15

Psalms 105:1-6, 37-45

Philippians 1:21-30

Matthew 20:1-16

September 27

Pentecost 18

1 Samuel 8:4-9

Psalms 145:1-13

Colossians 1:11-20

Matthew 18:1-5



September

Guys Night Out
Tuesday, September 8, 6:00pm

Finance Meeting
Monday, September 14, 7:00pm

Council Meeting
Monday, September 21 7:00pm

Oktoberfest
Sunday, September 20, after worship

Community Meal
Sunday, September 27, 12:00pm

Bible Study and Midday Prayer
Wednesdays Beginning September 2
11:00



Exciting new things are afoot at Christ Church this fall!

Starting on Sunday September 6, along with **Rally Day** for the children, we'll begin an extended **preaching series on the Lord's Prayer**. We all know it by heart and recite it automatically—but sometimes the gift of familiarity means we don't even hear it anymore. Taking our time through the Sundays of this fall, we'll spend time with each petition and awaken our hearts and minds once more to the wonder of the prayer that our Lord Jesus taught us.

It's no accident that I've chosen to immerse the congregation in the Lord's Prayer for the next three months. The practice of prayer, both liturgical and individual, is the beating heart of the church, its lifeblood. Renewal as the congregation means renewal of the practice of prayer.

To help in this, in each newsletter I'll share our congregation's "**Prayer of the Month**." Even if you don't have much practice praying our own spontaneous prayers, it's easy to get started on praying a shared written prayer. I ask you to make time to pray their prayer at least once a week (more is OK!). I'll share more on how to develop your prayer life in the months ahead. But this is a simple and easy way to get started.

Prayer is not just our random talking to God, though. It's a response to God talking to us, which He does chiefly in the gift of Holy Scripture. You can think of it as a conversation—we hear from God in Scripture, and we respond to God in prayer. So, to further renew our congregational life of prayer, we'll start having **weekly Bible study and prayer on Wednesdays at 11 a.m.** Our focus for the year ahead will be the Book of Acts, one chapter each week. After Bible study, we'll pray midday prayer together, finishing up at 12 noon. We'll begin on Wednesday, September 2. Join us if you can!

Pastor Wilson



September Prayer of the Month

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Merciful Father, you know how difficult these days are for me. You have promised to hear those who cry out to you in times of trouble. Listen to my plea for mercy and send me help from the sanctuary of your grace. Preserve me from bitterness of spirit, and rescue me from every temptation to despair. Calm my frustrations with the knowledge that my life is secure in your redeeming love, for I am baptized into the death and resurrection of your Son. Draw me out of self-centered worry, which stifles faith, and cause me to take comfort in the great and precious promises that you make to me and every believer in the gospel of Christ. Sustain and strengthen me in every cross and affliction, that your grace might be made perfect in my weakness. Give me confidence to pray without losing heart and to trust in your mighty deliverance according to your good and gracious will. Father, into your hands I commend myself. Hear me, for the sake of your Son Jesus, who is my brother and savior. Amen.

CHURCH COUNCIL

Members of Christ Lutheran Church,

What an exciting time to be part of Christ Lutheran Church! As we head into the fall, many of our ministries are getting back into full swing, and there is a lot of positive energy throughout our congregation.

I especially want to recognize and thank Pastor Wilson for the positive impact she has made in such a short amount of time. Pastor Wilson has brought fresh ideas, energy, and enthusiasm to our church, and it has been exciting to see the many positive changes taking place. Sometimes change can be difficult, especially when we are comfortable with the way things have always been done. I encourage everyone to keep an open mind and be willing to give something new a try. We may not always know exactly what to expect, but growth often begins when we step outside of our comfort zone.

Rally Day and Sunday School kick off on Sunday, September 6. We are excited to welcome back our children, youth, and families for another great year. If you have questions about Youth & Family Ministry, please reach out to Alexa Sheaffer.

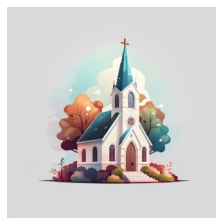
The Adult Choir will begin again on Sunday, September 13. Keep an eye out for some exciting new opportunities in our music ministry, including solo cantoring opportunities and a new “Jubilee Choir.” This short-term choir will give members the opportunity to join together and help strengthen our music for important seasons such as Reformation, Christmas, Easter, and Pentecost. Dr. Scott Crowne will be sharing more details soon.

Finally, please keep your schedule open for our Oktoberfest and Anniversary Sunday Celebration on September 20! Following worship, we will gather in the Parish Hall for live polka music, wonderful German food, and great fellowship. I am also happy to share that Bishop Herr has accepted our invitation and is expected to join us for the celebration.

Sign-up sheets to help the Fellowship Committee are available on the desk in the Lower Narthex. Bring a stein and come enjoy a wonderful afternoon celebrating together! If you have questions or would like to help, please contact Cindy Cooley and/or Tom Keller.

There is so much happening at Christ Lutheran! I encourage everyone to get involved, try something new, and enjoy the many opportunities we have to worship and serve together.

God Bless,
Keith Stoltzfus
Council President





Do you love to sing? Have you wanted to sing at worship but don't have the time to commit to choir rehearsal every single week? This year at Christ Lutheran we are adding two new areas to our music ministry. In addition to the weekly choir and our bell choir, we will now begin cantoring and the Jubilee choir.

Cantoring means leading the congregation from the microphone in the liturgical portions of the service and the hymns. This would involve minimal rehearsal before the service and a schedule based on your own availability.

The Jubilee choir will require only brief periods of repeated rehearsals in preparation for major holidays and occasions. The first occasion for this will be Reformation Sunday, followed by Christmas Eve.

Of course, we always welcome new members to our existing choirs, but if you want to participate in the service musically and need a flexible schedule, perhaps these new avenues could work for you. If you have any questions, contact Scott Crowne at music@christlutheranyork.com. Blessings to you all!



Rally Sunday

Join us Sunday, September 6th as we kick off another exciting Sunday School. Our youth will review the lessons they learned last year through a fun and engaging scavenger hunt.

Sunday School

Sunday School will officially begin on Sunday, September 13th. Our first series will be all about The Disciples.

Youth and Family Pool Party

Join us for our Youth and Family Pool Party for an afternoon of fun, fellowship, and swimming! Parents, please check your email for the party details and be sure to RSVP. If you have any questions, please reach out to Alexa Sheaffer or Jacquee Desai.



Come Join us for Oktoberfest
Sunday September 20th

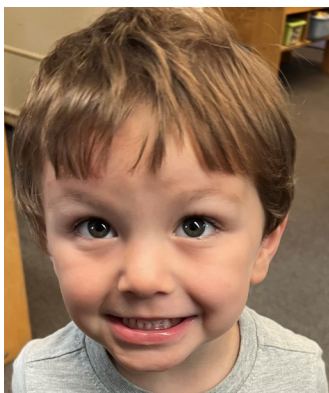
Come join us for our Annual Oktoberfest to celebrate our church's anniversary and our German heritage. The Dockenspieler will be there to provide great music, so bring your dancing shoes!

Bring your appetite and enjoy Brats and Kraut and don't forget your stein for some good German beer!

We could use some volunteers to help set up on Saturday 9/19 (starting at 9 am) and to clean-up on Sunday after the meal. Sign-up sheets are in the lower narthex.

Thanks, Cindy Cooley

Child of the Month



This month our child spotlight is on Nacoma!

Nacoma is one of our older toddlers. He started with our center a few short months ago, and has already grown and learned so much. Nacoma loves to climb, build, and explore whenever he can. He especially loves to play in the dirt!. Nacoma enjoys circle time, learning new songs, and making new friends.

Attention Please:

At this time we are greatly in need of tissues, as well as board books (new or gently used.).

Other items we are constantly in need of are animal crackers, Cheezits, graham crackers, and goldfish. Please consider making a donation to our child care center.

As always, thank you for your support of our center!

END OF MONTH GIVING REPORT

July 2026 Report

Actual envelope giving for the month	29,155
<u>Budgeted envelope giving for the month</u>	<u>27,500</u>
Monthly surplus in envelope giving	1,655
YTD actual envelope giving	187,332
<u>YTD budgeted envelope giving</u>	<u>192,500</u>
YTD deficit in envelope giving	-5.168

Christ Lutheran Church
717-854-5589
Child Care Center: 717-854-2239
www.christlutheranyork.org
E-mail: office@christlutheranyork.com

Christ Lutheran Church Staff

Pastor Sarah Hinlicky Wilson
pastor@christlutheranyork.com

Dr. Scott Crowne, Director of Music
music@christlutheranyork.com

Carol Krouse, Parish Secretary
office@christlutheranyork.com

Terry Hoover, Publications
associate@christlutheranyork.com

BethAnn Barbato, Director of Child Care
beth@christlutheranyork.com

Mary Jo Vlazny, Business Manager
bookkeeper@christlutheranyork.com

Scott Albright, Property Manager
property@christlutheranyork.com

Alexa Sheaffer, Youth and Family Coordinator
christianed@christlutheranyork.com

Eric R. D. Patches, Custodian

Council Members

Keith Stoltzfus - President
Adreinne Brenner - Vice President
Tom Keller - Treasurer
Cindy Cooley - Secretary
Ed Garber
Tom Gross
Rochelle Nyman
Tom Olson
Hank Stienhilber
Jen Vanada
Leslee Yoder