

The Chi-Rho
October 2026

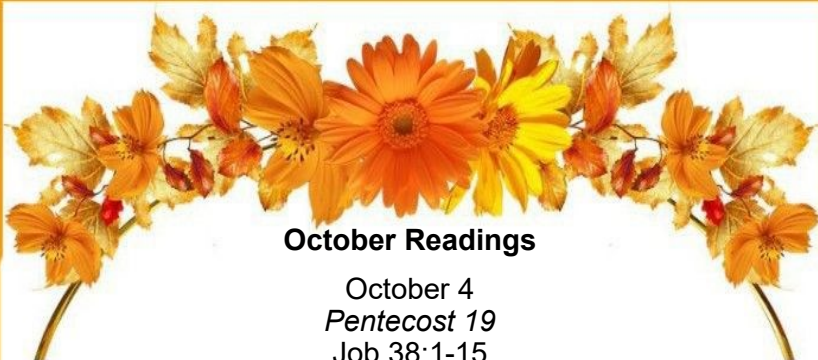


Christ Lutheran Church
29 S. George Street, York, Pa. 17401
Join us Sundays for worship at 10:00am.

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*



October Readings

October 4

Pentecost 19

Job 38:1-15

Psalm 1

1 John 5:13-20

Mark 3:31-35

October 11

Pentecost 20

Genesis 1:26-31

Psalm 145:13-21

Acts 6:1-7

John 6:35-40

October 18

Pentecost 21

Isaiah 45:1-7

Psalm 96:1-9

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Mark 12:41-44

October 25

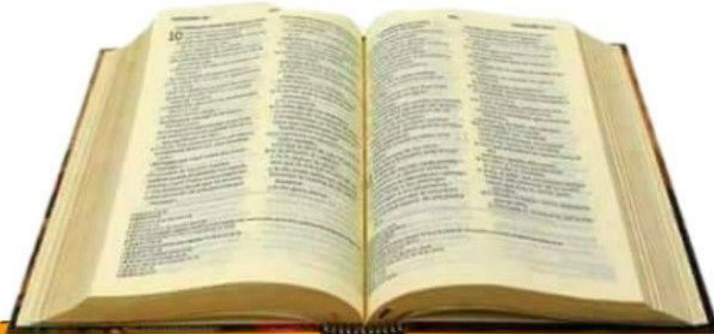
Reformation Sunday

II Chronicles 6:19-27

Psalm 46

Hebrews 9:15-22

Matthew 18:21-35



October



Congregation Discussion with Pastor
Sunday, October 4, after worship

Finance Meeting
Monday, October 12, 7:00pm

Guys Night Out
Tuesday, October 13, 6:00pm

Council Meeting
Monday, October 19, 7:00pm

Community Meal
Sunday, October 18, 12:00pm

Trunk or Treat
Sunday, October 25, 12:00pm to 1:00pm

Midweek Bible Study
Wednesdays at 11:00am in the parlor
plus Midday Prayer at 11:50am.



From the Pastor

St. Paul's letter, II Corinthians, is among my favorite reading in the whole of Scripture. It is beautiful and passionate, and includes awe-inspiring passages like these:

"For the Son of God, Jesus Christ, whom we proclaimed among you, was not Yes and No, but in him it is always Yes. For all the promises of God find their Yes in him." (1:19–20)

"You are a letter from Christ delivered by us, written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts." (3:3)

"We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God." (5:20–21)

These are profound thoughts about the deepest mysteries: reconciliation with God, the presence of the Holy Spirit in our lives, the Yes of God found in the cross of Christ.

And in this very same letter, St. Paul shares his longest discussion of stewardship! To him, it is the most natural thing in the world to combine preaching about salvation with an appeal for generous giving to support the work of the church.

That's why he writes in II Corinthians 9, "Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work. He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way to be generous in every way, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God. For the ministry of this service is not only supplying the needs of the saints but is also overflowing in many thanksgivings to God."

Paul explains the connection between salvation and stewardship very carefully. It's not like giving is what *causes* you to be saved—definitely not! It's exactly the opposite order of things. God is infinitely generous in giving his own Son and Spirit to us. God is Generosity Itself! By pouring his own generosity into us, God is inviting us to respond with generosity.

The gift we give to God is gratitude: recognizing and saying thank you for all that God has given us.

All other gifts we direct toward the need around us. We give of our time, our attention, our money, our skills, and our talents to the church, to people in need, to upright causes and services nearby and around the world.

We give because God first gave to us.

As we approach Stewardship Sunday, take some time to say thank you to God! And, reflecting on the gratitude you have toward God, think about how you can give to others, including the church. Paul calls this “the surpassing grace of God upon you.”

Thanks be to God for his inexpressible gift!

—Pastor Wilson



Prayer of the Month:

Almighty God, merciful Father, we give you hearty thanks that, by the power of the Holy Spirit, you have called us through the preaching of the gospel and taught us to believe in your Word. Through Jesus Christ you have made us into living stones, and you build us up to be your holy church in the world. Keep our congregation steadfast and firm upon the foundation of Christ. Continually pour your Spirit upon us, so that we may receive with joy your gift of the Word and sacraments. Keep our pastor steadfast in prayer and in the ministry of the gospel. Bless our teachers of the youth, workers of mercy, and church staff with hearts of faith, love, and service. Through the ministry of our congregation, awaken the sleeping, convert the erring, encourage the fainthearted, and comfort the disheartened. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

CHURCH COUNCIL



Members of Christ Lutheran Church,

What a wonderful way to celebrate our 293rd Anniversary! I want to begin by giving a huge thank you to Cindy Cooley, Tom Keller, and everyone who helped make our Anniversary Sunday and Oktoberfest celebration such a success! It was so good to see so many members of our congregation together, having fun and enjoying fellowship. Bishop Herr had nothing but wonderful things to say about the celebration, and I think it was a great reflection of what makes Christ Lutheran such a special church family.

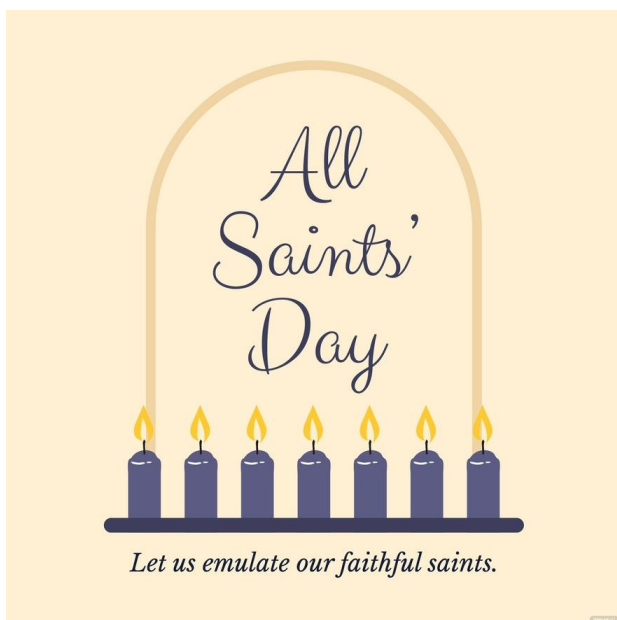
After hearing Bishop Herr speak about our rich history, I also want to highlight the work of our Congregational Records and Archives Committee. If you haven't visited the History and Genealogy section of our church website recently, I encourage you to take a look! Pastor Mel Dick continues to do a tremendous amount of work preserving and sharing our history and has been working with Pastor Wilson to update this information online. There are some really interesting stories and pieces of our church's history that you may not know about!

Finally, I want to ask everyone for a huge favor! Our annual Trunk or Treat is October 25 from 12:00–1:00PM, hosted by our Family & Youth Committee. We are always provided with plenty of candy donations, but we could really use more members willing to decorate their vehicles and hand out candy. A parking lot full of decorated cars would make this event even more special for our own youth and for the many families from our community who come to enjoy a safe and fun afternoon. Please consider joining us and decorating your trunk! If you're interested, please reach out to Alexa Sheaffer.

I hope to see many of you throughout October!

God Bless,

Keith Stoltzfus
Church Council President



ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY

November 1, 2026

As part of our observance of All Saints' Sunday, we will again display a table of votive candles in the nave. We invite you to light a candle for loved ones who are deceased. A candle also can be lighted for loved ones of those unable to attend worship that day.

To include a name in the bulletin, please email to Terry Hoover (associate@christlutheranyork.com) or Carol Krouse (office@christlutheranyork.com) **no later than Tuesday, October 27.**



Trunk or treat

On October 25, from 12-1pm in the parking lot we will have our annual Trunk or Treat event.

It is the same day as the York Halloween parade.

Please contact Alexa Sheaffer at christianed@christlutheranyork.com to help with this event.

She is in need of decorated cars, candy, and general help.

Child Spotlight



This month, our Child Spotlight is on Mackenzie!

Mackenzie is one of our older toddlers. She loves playing with her friends, her brothers Jordan and Michael, and snuggling with her teachers. Her favorite activities include playing dress-up, building with blocks, taking care of baby dolls, and being a teacher's helper.

A Quick Request:

As the seasons change, we are seeing a few more runny noses. If you are able to donate a box or two of tissues, it would be greatly appreciated. We are also accepting donations of Lysol or Clorox wipes at this time.

Thank you so much for your continued support of our center!

Social Ministry

Prior to Advent, the Social Ministry Committee will be collecting gifts for our Child Care Center children as we did for Christmas last year.

In October the director, Beth Barbato, is sending letters to the parents requesting gift suggestions, sizes and ages of the children and whether or not the gift is to be wrapped. Their responses will be compiled in a list with a signup sheet available in the lower narthex near the Chapel on November 1. We are asking that gifts be brought in by November 22.

Thank you in advance for helping these families celebrate Christmas.





**Set your clocks back for
Sunday, November 1st.**

END OF MONTH GIVING REPORT

August 2026 Report

Actual envelope giving for the month	34,945
<u>Budgeted envelope giving for the month</u>	<u>27,500</u>
Monthly surplus in envelope giving	7,445
YTD actual envelope giving	222,277
<u>YTD budgeted envelope giving</u>	<u>200,000</u>
YTD surplus in envelope giving	2,277



Trunk or Treat Sign up

Sunday, October 25, 2026

12:00-1:00



(please respond by October 11)

Name _____

Best way to contact (please circle)

Call Text email

☐ I'd love to decorate my car and participate in Trunk or Treat!

☐ Check this box if you would like help with decorations

☐ I am unable to help this year but I'd love to send in a bag of candy (please place candy bags in bin outside the Nave)

Please contact Alexa Sheaffer for more information:
(717) 825-8920 or ChristianEd@christlutheranyork.com

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
Adrienne Smith - Vice President
Tom Keller - Treasurer
Cindy Cooley - Secretary
Ed Garber
Tom Gross
Rochelle Nyman
Tom Olson
Hank Stienhilber
Jenny Vanada
Leslee Yoder