

Christ Lutheran Church
1928 S. Reese Road
Reese, MI 48757-9718



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Church Staff and Church Council

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SUNDAY SCHOOL

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Secretary:	Kelly Walz	989.239.6912
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Spec. Funds Treasurer:	Chris Bublitz	989.659.3211
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Property	John Ward	989.245-3672
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Youth & Family	Jen Shores	989.225.3999

In an effort to conserve on the use of paper and postage, we are offering to send the newsletter out via e-mail. Please e-mail the office with your current email information. If you no longer desire to receive this newsletter please email or call the church office. Thank you.

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Christ Lutheran Church

November 2025 Newsletter



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday - 8:30 am Traditional Worship
- 9:45 am Youth & Adult Sunday School
- 11 am Contemporary Worship

Wednesday - 4 pm - Midweek Worship

Communion is celebrated at every worship service.

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ALL SAINTS' DAY was observed on Sunday, November 2nd. We remember those friends and family who passed this year:

Marvin Howell
Allen Walz
David Kowalski
Larry Lapak
Thomas Schafsnitz

David Edwards
Colleen Labeau
Shirley Mielens
Richard Mossner



WEDNESDAY ADVENT SERVICES will be held at 4 and 7 pm on December 3rd (Hope), 10th (Peace) and 17th (Joy).

ADVENT MEALS will be served again between the Advent services. The meal will be held after the early service and be served until 6:30 pm. Desserts will be needed and we will also need help for clean-up after the meal. A Thrivent grant will be used to purchase the food. A free will donation will be accepted and given to a local organization.



THANKSGIVING EVE WORSHIP will be at 4 pm
Wednesday, November 26th.



CHURCH DECORATING for Advent/Christmas will be **Monday, December 1st at 10 am.** Your help is needed.

Happy November, Christ Lutheran Church!

October has come and gone. But it was a full month of ministry. I am grateful for the time I spent at the LCMC Annual Gathering at the beginning of October. It was a great time to recharge in preparation for what is to come this month and next. As we enter November and approach Thanksgiving, it is a great time to reflect and give thanks for all that the Lord has given us. I give thanks to the Lord for these past 7 months here at Christ Lutheran. It has been such a blessing to me, and I pray it has been for you as well. What do you need to give thanks to the Lord for in your life? Think about it, and let me know when you see me throughout the month.

Blessings, Pastor Phil

It is November all ready, time to reflect on all we are thankful for. I thank God everyday for all He has carried me through and lifted me when I needed it.

So much has been accomplished this year. The LED's have been completed and Alex even knocked down the dust and cobwebs on the ceiling in the Fellowship Hall. This is where I thank God he did not want my help there! We have the heat back on and seems everyone is happy!

We will be adding Christ Lutheran to the Saginaw County Emergency Management Division. They are creating a contact list of houses of worship in the county if an emergency were to take place.

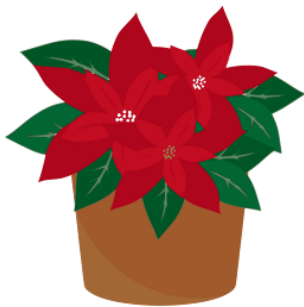
If you have any questions or concerns, stop me. We are here for each other!

Happy Thanksgiving!

Sandy

Adult Sunday School

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL meets on **Sunday mornings** between worship services. We have started a new study called "Navigating the Storms of Life". Please feel free to join each week for a deeper study of God's word.



POINSETTIA orders are being taken this month for Christmas. I have preordered 12 and can possibly get more if needed. Thank you to those of you who have already reserved a plant. The cost remains at \$15. Extra money raised will go to the youth. Order forms are on the bulletin boards. Please submit cash or check along with the form and place in the offering plate or turn in to the office. Poinsettias can be taken home after the Christmas Day service.



Who's coming to dinner? Or lunch? Or tea time? Or game time? It's the Pastor!

A sign up calendar for October and November is available on the bulletin board where you can choose a date to invite me over for a visit and we can get to know each other better! Choose a date and a time of day - if you'd like to have me over for dinner, lunch, or just a chat, please make a note about that on the calendar. If, for whatever reason, you'd like to meet outside of your home, mark that on the calendar as well, and we can discuss alternatives. Or you can call the office to sign up over the phone. I am looking forward to it! Pastor Phil

FaithCircle

FAITH CIRCLE will meet **Monday, November 3rd** at **10 am**. Come and join us in the Bible study of "Busyness, Finding God in the Whirlwind". We will hear the invitation to draw the strength we need for the day from God.



CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH WOMEN will meet **Monday, November 3rd** at **11 am**.



JOY CIRCLE will meet on **Thursday, November 13th** at **6:30 pm**. All women of the church are welcome.



WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY - All Women of the Congregation are welcome to come join us on **Thursday, November 13th** from **7 - 8 pm** as we study, "**God's Reluctant Leaders - The Biblical Stories of Jonah, Gideon, and Moses**". Jonah, Gideon and Moses are three examples of people who creatively attempted to escape the call God made to them. Overwhelmed by their own fear, insecurity, and skepticism, they would have turned God down. But God overcame their reluctance, by proving Himself faithful to His Word and by shaping their lives with the Holy Spirit. By making these ordinary people His servants, God eventually formed them into the leaders He had called them to be. It is my prayer that as you read about God's call in their lives, you may be reminded of God's call in your life as well. Written by: Rev. Lisa Lewton

Session 3 – Unusual Preaching - Jonah

Spiritual writer Fredrick Buechner wrote, "The Gospel is bad news before it is good news." How can bad news become good news? How can despair turn to hope? How can disbelieving be transformed into believing? One way to answer this can be found in the Lutheran understanding of God's Word as both Law and Gospel. That is why Martin Luther encouraged people to listen for two things in a Sermon, because each needs to do its work on us to bring about Faith.

education

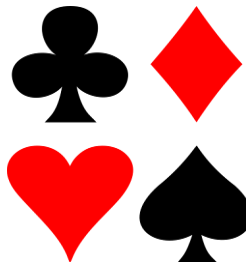
EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEETING is **Monday, November 10th** at **6:30 pm**.



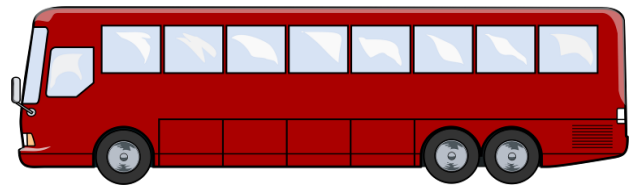
HANDBELL CHOIR PRACTICES are on **Wednesdays** at **5 pm** in the sanctuary. We will take the second Wednesday of each month off.



SEW FOR FAITH meets on **Wednesdays** from **9:30 - 11:30 am**. Come and join us for fellowship and help with our current projects. You don't need to know how to sew.



EUCHRE FUN GAMES - Mark your calendar and bring your family and friends for some fall fellowship and fun on the following dates: **November 8 and 22**. **NOTE: The time for all dates will be at 3 pm**. There is no euchre in December.



LET'S GO COACHIN' - The Ministry of Congregational Life invites you, your family, and friends to join other members of Christ Lutheran Church for fun and fellowship on one of Renee Cragg's trips for 2025!

November 8-9, 2025: Traveling to Kewadin, Sault St. Marie – Bay Mills Casino, Brimley (overnight) – Odawa, Mackinaw City

November 11: Soaring Eagle Day Trip

August 5-17, 2026 – Big Sky Montana

October 7-12, 2026 – Fall in Love With Nashville

RENEE'S TRAVEL LLC 989-325-0408. SEE DETAILED INFORMATION ON THE BULLETIN BOARD.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

SUNDAY SCHOOL - Sunday, November 9th at the 8:30 am service the kids will be playing "We Gather Together" for hand-bells.



YOUTH & FAMILY - Saturday, November 15th at 5 pm we will be watching "King of Kings" on the Big Screen in the Fellowship Hall and have Family Game Night after the movie. We will also have pizza and refreshments! Hope to see you there.

7TH - 12TH GRADE YOUTH - Sunday, November 16th
Mission Trip and Spring Hill Meeting: If you are interested in going to Spring Hill and/or the Mission Trip, please attend this meeting following the 11 am service.



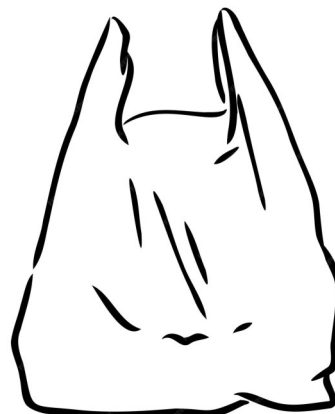
7TH - 12TH GRADE YOUTH - Saturday, November 22nd at 2 pm we will be going to Painterly Pottery. If you are interested in going, please let Kelly know by **November 9th** so that she can make reservations.

Sunday, November 23rd is the **BAKE SALE** between services. **7TH-12TH GRADE YOUTH:** please bring two bake sale items to sell. The proceeds from this fundraiser will go toward offsetting the cost of attending Spring Hill and other fun youth events.



YOUTH ACTIVITIES

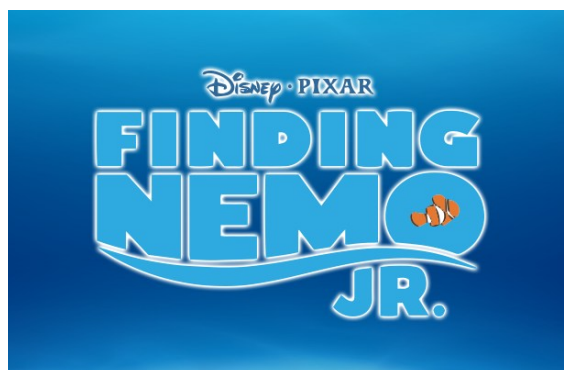
COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT - Saturday, November 15th at 2 pm please join us in the Fellowship Hall to package Christmas Tote Bags for homeless children and orphans. **If you are interested in donating items we could use the following: puzzles, card games, small board games, balls, dolls, jump ropes, craft projects, bracelets, hair ties, brushes, makeup kits, colored pencils, coloring books, wash clothes, gloves, scarves, socks, etc.** Please feel free to call Kelly Walz with any questions at 989-239-6912.



YOUTH BIBLE STUDY for youth in grades 7th through 12th grade meets on **Sunday nights** from **6 - 8:30 pm** at Christ Lutheran Church. Our study is called "Excavating the Evidence for Jesus". Dinner is provided. Please come and invite your friends to join us for food, games and Bible study.

NOVEMBER ACOLYTE SCHEDULE

November 2	MiKayla Schulz	Alaina Edie
November 9	Owen VanDenBoom	Alissa Edie
November 16	Harper Bauer	William Ward
November 23	Rylie Clauss	Krissa Cunningham
November 30	Logan Matthews	Alaina Edie



Several of our youth are involved with the play "Finding Nemo Jr.". It will be performed on Saturday, November 22nd at 7 pm and Sunday, November 23rd at 3 pm in the Susan R. Wagner Performing Arts Center Auditorium at Reese High School. Tickets can be purchased at Market Grey Boutique in Reese or at the High School before each performance.



UCCS COLLECTION FOR NOVEMBER: Cereal, oatmeal, jello & pudding, mac & cheese, rice & pasta side dish boxes/pouches, jam & jelly, canned fruit. **CUT OFF DATE FOR FOOD DONATIONS IS DECEMBER 7TH.** Please donate only what is listed as these items are the most needed **AND** check expiration dates - make sure **NOT** before January 2026. Thank you.



TOYS FOR TOTS collection has begun. Toys must be new and unwrapped. Last day to bring in toys is **December 5th.**



GOOD SAMARITAN RESCUE MISSION OF BAY CITY has a need for the following items: men's deodorant, underwear/T-shirts - men (M-XL), underwear - women (S,L), Kleenex, chapstick, hair brushes, kid's toothpaste, baby wipes. Youth shelter needs are men's deodorant and women's body spray. Pantry needs are chicken and beef broth, sloppy joe mix, ranch and Italian dressing, creamed corn, coffee. Items can be placed in the tote under the coat rack.



OUR DAILY BREAD DEVOTIONALS for December through February are available in the basket in the lounge area. Large print will be out in December.

ATTENDANCE

Oct.	9 am Sunday	11 am Sunday	Wednesday	Sunday School
1			21	
5	64	9		19
8			15	
12	60	15		16
15			15	
19	52	11		13
22			25	
26	60	19		16
29			14	

Christ Lutheran Church of Reese Michigan
CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
Monday, October 27, 2025

Present: David Abraham, Chris Bubnitz, Mary Felske, Trista Jeske-Yax, Robbie Oldenburg, Sandy Schafsnitz, Jen Shores, Kelly Walz, Irene Weiss and Pastor Phil

Excused: Lora DeLong and John Ward

Guest: Kendyl Murphy

Opened in Prayer: Pastor Phil opened in prayer at 7:02 pm

Kendyl asked if their home-schooling co-op could use about 7 classrooms and the Fellowship Hall for their classes once a week. The space they are currently using is no longer available. Their group does not have liability insurance. Council is concerned about liability issues, security issues for that many children on a regular basis, having all of our Sunday School Teachers put away everything that is in their classrooms currently, and the segmented flow of traffic throughout the church. Because of the issues that St. Elizabeth brought up with the training of volunteers and protecting children and our volunteers from sexual abuse allegations, we brought up needing background checks and possibly similar training to protect all involved. Council unanimously voted no. Jen Shores and several members said to check into the Methodist Church in Millington and the old church building over by Papios. Pastor closed the discussion in prayer and we wished Kendyl much luck, love and answered prayers for a building for her co-op.

1. Monthly Reports

- a. **Secretary Minutes:** A motion was made by Mary Felske to accept the minutes with the amendments, supported by Robbie Oldenburg, and was carried to accept the minutes.
- b. **General Fund Report:** A motion was made by Irene Weiss to accept, supported by Robbie Oldenburg, and was carried to accept the report.
- c. **Special Funds Report:** A motion was made by Jen Shores to accept, supported by Irene Weiss, and was carried to accept the report.
- d. **Office/Pastor's Report:** He has made regular visits to the shut-ins, 1 funeral, says Adult Bible Study and 7th-12th Grade Bible Study are going well. Pastor and Sandy would like to get two more cameras to cover all entrances. Mary Felske made a motion to purchase the cameras, Robbie Oldenburg supported and the motion was carried. Pastor wondered if we could put a QR Code in the bulletin, or on YouTube about the Electronic Payment Option. Pastor asked about doing a picture directory and Sandy will check into it. All Saints Day is coming up and the dinger is not working. He wondered if Diane Osantowski or someone could ring a hand-bell for each person who passed this year. Pastor will be out for vacation after the Christmas Day service and Pastor Mark will do the service on December 28th.

2. Unfinished Business

- a. **LED Lighting:** LED Lighting is now complete. David needs to check the sound and see if anything was affected. Alex also took a duster to the ceiling.
- b. **Ceiling Cleaned:** Alex also took a duster to the ceiling and cleared all cobwebs.

3. New Business

- a. **Raise the limit of the transfer from \$2,000 to \$5,000:** With the price of everything going up we voted on raising the transfer limit to \$5,000. David Abraham made a motion to accept this change, Robbie Oldenburg supported and the motion was carried.
- b. **Lawn Mowing:** Four people have volunteered to run a rotation to mow the lawn.
- c. **2026 Repave the Parking Lot:** Sandy will be getting three quotes for repaving the parking lot.
- d. **GFI Plugs:** Carter DeLong said that he could map the plugs in the kitchen and put together a diagram to hang on the wall in the kitchen.
- e. **EMS:** Saginaw County would like area churches to sign up for the Emergency Management System Disaster Relief Network. Robbie made a motion to sign up, Jen Shores supported and the motion was carried.

4. Ministry Reports

- a. **Ministry of Youth and Family:** Jen reported that the kids went to Crossroads Village for Ghost and Goodies, made Thanksgiving Placemats and went to the Danny Gokey/Colton Dixon/Mac Powell concert.
- b. **Ministry of Property:** N/A
- c. **Ministry of Worship and Music:** Irene asked if we could do Children's Bulletins again and if we could clear out some of the old plays in the music room. She also asked if they could still purchase a hot water heater for under one sink and if we could check into new counters in the kitchen. The hot water heater was a no and the counters are too expensive at this time.
- d. **Outreach and Congregational Life:** Trista had 6 tables for Euchre. She will be doing doughnuts and gift bags for Veterans Day. She would like to get together with Kelly and check into doing a Spirit Hockey Game for the Congregation.
- e. **Ministry of Education:** Robbie reported that the next meeting is on November 10th and Kelly will be doing the Christmas Program this year.
- f. **Ministry of Communication:** The dinger is not working. Pastor has it on his to do list. Chris asked if there could be better communication between the organist and the Bell Ringer. Maybe she could nod her head when ready.

5. We closed the meeting with the Lord's Prayer at 9:09 p.m.

6. Next meeting is November 17th.

Respectfully submitted,
Kelly Walz, Secretary

Worship and Music Meeting October 13th, 2025

Present: Deva, Irene, Robbie, Phyllis, Pastor Philip

Services:

Irene has had a few comments that it is hard for people to get to the 8:30 service.

Talked about the 5 minutes before the service begins, it is part of our church service. Robbie explained if there isn't an organist playing, then there is No music for those 5 minutes. During that time the announcements of the church are shown for the live stream.

Pastor Philip is going to reach out to the local churches again to see if they would participate in an Ecumenical service.

Kelly is doing the Sunday School Christmas program on December 21st during the Sunday School time. There will be coffee, cookies and punch in the fellowship hall to follow. No 11 am service that day.

Music:

Why does Wednesday only have pre-recorded Traditional music. Was suggested to have the opening and closing traditional and 1 contemporary song during the service.

Phyllis said that the pre-recorded music doesn't have any songs for Lent, Advent or special services. Pastor Philip will talk to Deb about what the package has.

Other:

Deva found some lighter weight white and black fabric. She will get the white before Christmas.

Mary Felske took the choir robes to Sebewaing. All the crosses and other items that were on the robes are on the peg board in the choir room.

Mary, Joseph and baby Jesus used in the front of the alter are being repaired by Makenna.

We need people to volunteer for the Advent service meals on December 3, 10, 17. Robbie will get a Thrivent Action Team Card.

Can we print "Kid" bulletins again? Deva said there are several in the file cabinets.

Church Council:

In the choir room there are many "Play books". Can we find an organization for them to be donated to?

Can we print "Kid" bulletins again? Deva said there are several in the file cabinets.

Next meeting – January 12, 2026 at 6:30pm.

Adjourned 8:00 with prayer from Pastor Philip.

Submitted by Robbie Oldenburg, secretary

Worship Assistants for November

DATE	LECTOR	COMMUNION SETUP	COMMUNION ASSISTANTS	COMMUNION CLEANUP 9 AM/11 AM	USHER TEAM
Nov. 2	Jen Shores	Nancy Clauss	Sandy Schafsnitz/ Nancy Clauss	Kevin Felske/ Ernie Rowe	1
Nov. 9	Renee Zimmer	Dale Bremer	Nancy Clauss/ Denise Felske	Renae Kamin/ Amanda & John Ward	2
Nov. 16	Diane Osantowski	Lora & Makenna DeLong	Denise Felske/ Sandy Schafsnitz	Irene Weiss/ Jill VanOchten	3
Nov. 23	Kelly Walz	Ellen Schultz	Sandy Schafsnitz/ Nancy Clauss	Kelly VanDenBoom/ Ernie Rowe	4
Nov. 30	Phyllis Felske	Kathy Bublitz	Nancy Clauss/ Phyllis Felske	Renae Kamin/ Amanda & John Ward	1



November Birthdays

- 2 Rachel Meyer
- 6 Tom Raymond
- 7 Ted Felske
Mitch Woolever
- 9 Bob Spiekerman – over 80
Ernie Rowe
- 12 Lloyd Smith
- 15 Jaidyn VanOchten
- 29 Isaac VanDenBoom
- 30 Linda Redwanz



Funerals

Thomas Schafsnitz passed away October 16th at the Tuscola County Medical Care Facility. His funeral was held on October 21st at Christ Lutheran Church with Pastor Phil Bromhal officiating. Burial is in Denmark Township Cemetery.



November Anniversaries

- | | | |
|----|-------------------------|------|
| 2 | Jim & Deva Weber | 1968 |
| 7 | Gary & Jodie Keyes | 1992 |
| 10 | Neil & Diane Osantowski | 2001 |
| 16 | Pat & Shirley Grabowski | 1979 |
| 26 | Jim & Sue Kolak | 1977 |

Thank You

Thank you for your generous donation to the Reese Community Trunk or Treat. The children always look forward to the activities and your donation helps to fund them.

Becki Anderson

Thank you to everyone who purchased Butter Braids and/or donated to Youth and Family. We appreciate your love and support. Also, Thank you to all who donated candy and/or helped stuff trunk-or-treat bags for the Community Trunk-or-Treat. And thank you to everyone that decorated your trunks and handed out candy at our Christ Lutheran Trunk-or-Treat.

Kelly Walz