



Christ Lutheran Church

Christ Church Comments **✝ October 2023**

Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church

225 E. Elm Avenue
Monroe, MI 48162
734.241.4554

Pastor:

davidhively@gmail.com

New - Website:

christmonroe.com

Facebook:

Christ Lutheran Church—Monroe,
MI

Secretary: Karen

secretaryonelm@sbcglobal.net

Licensed Lay Minister

Wayne Butts

rwbutts@chartermi.net

Interim Youth Family Ministry Coordinator

Carolyn Gardetto

cgardetto7@comcast.net

Newsletter:

secretaryonelm@sbcglobal.net

Almost every one of us can tell a story about a time we encountered God within the walls of Christ Lutheran Church. Perhaps it was during a heartwarming Easter service filled with hope, or the cherished Christmas Eve gathering that brought peace to our souls. Maybe it was a deeply personal moment, like witnessing a family baptism, celebrating a confirmation, or mourning at a loved one's funeral. While we recognize that the building itself isn't magical, it's undeniably a place that many of us hold dear.

This year, our Stewardship Drive is called "**Building Strength Together.**" Our intention is twofold. First, we aim to grow stronger as a tightly-knit community of faith, deepening our spiritual bonds and collective commitment. Second, we are dedicated to maintaining and enhancing our physical building to serve as an ever-ready platform for a wide spectrum of ministries.

After the people who make up our community of faith, the building might be our most important asset because of the ministry that it makes possible: I think of how, when AA and Al-anon gather here the building becomes a place where deep truths are told and delicate confidences are kept. On Tuesdays and Thursdays, our building becomes an outpost of hope where families in our community know that they can get food to eat and be welcomed as friends instead of treated with suspicion. When MOMs club gathers in the basement the building becomes a place where people who are doing the difficult work of raising children find support and community. Last year, when the Monroe High School Madrigal Singers performed the Fellowship Hall became a place where teens who may not fit in anywhere else blended their voices with joy and harmony. And for one amazing week each summer a new cohort of children join the thousands who have gathered

there before to jump, sing, laugh, play, and learn the stories of the faith during Vacation Bible School. Our building is more than wood, brick, and stone - it is a tool for growing in faith and serving our neighbors.

This October and November, we invite you to consider how God might be calling you to participate in and support the ministry of Christ Lutheran Church. You'll hear inspiring stories from fellow congregation members about why they passionately support our ministry here. You'll listen to heartwarming narratives of how the various ministries within these walls profoundly impact our community. Most importantly, you'll be invited to stand beside us in this vital work by completing an estimate of giving card. Your commitment will help shape our budget and strengthen our partnerships in ministry.

As we embark on this Stewardship Drive, let us remember that it is not just a building but a sacred space where lives are transformed, faith is nurtured, and our community thrives. We are **Building Strength Together** and we will continue to be a beacon of hope and love for all who enter these doors.

Peace,

Pastor David

We appreciate you bringing in bags for the Food Pantry. Please be sure they are clean, dry, and without holes.



Note....we have seen as many as 39 people in one day....

Christmas Eve Worship
at Christ Lutheran

12/23 - 5p - Contemporary
12/24 - 9:30a Traditional
12/24 - 7p Traditional

All services:
communion and candlelight

²³ **For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

Romans 6:23

HAVE YOU HAD A CHANGE OF ADDRESS?

Please notify the church office with the details of your new address, **if you have moved, or have a new phone number, or are vacationing for an extended period of time.** This helps save postage on returned mail. All church contact information is found on page one.



Shirley Matthews 90th birthday is October 18th
It would make her day if she received a card
from you. Her address is:
19 E Grove, Monroe MI 48162.



SAVE THE DATE FOR THIS FAMILY FRIENDLY EVENT!

Sign up sheet is on the narthex bulletin board

The Not So Scary Halloween Party

Friday, October 27, 2023 6:00 p.m.



Games! Snacks! Crafts!

Courtesy of CLC
Baptismal Team

Please contact Carolyn at 734-755-2012 or email
cgardetto7@comcast.net with a family headcount!



The colder weather will soon be on its way. Please consider donating womens, men's & children's socks. Thanks!



Sunday, October 1

APPLE PICKING

Kreps Apple Barn

12500 Minx Road, LaSalle

Meet at 1 p.m.



CLC will purchase donuts and cider for all who join us. Bring money for U-Pick apples and other activities including the apple cannon, corn maze, etc. There are hayrides and a children's play area too!

Contact Carolyn Gardetto at
734-755-2012 with questions.



Please e-mail the names of loved ones departed for All Saints Sunday, by November 1st
secretaryonelm@sbcglobal.net

Drop your donations off at the church or call: Ann Link 734-243-9396.
(ankle length and no-shows are most often requested).



The website address for Christ Lutheran Church is:

christmonroe.com

News from around the church

CLC Church Clean Up will be on **Saturday, October 14 from 10 am—noon**. Adult and teenage volunteers are needed to trim bushes, rake leaves, remove cement bags from the shed, and generally prepare the church for winter weather. Several inside tasks include installing new EXIT signage and repairing/painting where the water damage is in the rear of the sanctuary. Several inside tasks need addressed including moving a large number of boxed light bulbs that are blocking an electrical panel in the mechanical room to the pit area. The Fire Marshal cited us for this infraction.

If you are unable to attend, but are willing to take on a task at your convenience, please contact either charlessanscrainte@gmail.com or cgardetto7@comcast.net. Thank You!



Scripture Readers

Thanks to Carol Miller for organizing!

October 1 Geof Oetjens
October 8 Patrick Lewis
October 15 Don Link
October 22 Stephanie Hawkins
October 29 Deborah Wilson

Ushers

Thanks to Patrick Lewis for organizing!

October 1 Geof Oetjens
October 8 Patrick Lewis
October 15 Jim or Mary Jackel
October 22 Patrick Lewis
October 29 Patrick Lewis

Assisting Minister

Thanks to Rusty Ward for organizing!

October 1 Renee Merkel
October 8 Jim Jackel
October 15 Wayne Butts
October 22 Rusty Ward
October 29 Renee Merkel

The Altar Flowers on October 21st & 22nd are given in loving memory of Bill Doster by his family.

Mr. Geoffrey Oetjens has made a donation to the Altar Guild in loving memory of his mother, Eltie.

October book Club will meet on the 19th @ 1pm @ Dede's. Read,,,"The Trees" by Conrad Richter

CURRENT FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Summary Operating Statement

	August 2023		YTD 2023	
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget
Operating income	\$ 12,395	\$ 16,915	\$ 119,568	\$ 139,664
Operating expense	20,852	19,128	138,885	136,129
Operating Surplus/(Deficit)	\$ (8,457)	\$ (2,213)	\$ (19,317)	\$ 3,535

There are 2 reasons that we ran a deficit. The first being salaries were paid on the 1st of September but the funds were taken out of the account the end of August. The second is we paid for the Steeple renovation in August and we had not collected the amount needed for the bill that was due. Both of these together equaled \$9,777.