



Community of Christ Lutheran Church
17th Sunday after Pentecost, October 5, 2025
8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.
Pastor Stephen C. Bond



THE GATHERING

Welcome

Pastor Stephen Bond

Musical Prelude

“Sleepers Wake” by J.S. Bach

Eric Dickey

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, our maker, our helper, and our keeper.
Amen.

Trusting in God’s mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful and loving God, we are your stiff-necked people. We trample on the needy. We grumble about your grace to others. We turn away from the poor. Have mercy on us and forgive our sins. Rejoice over us as ones who were lost and have been found. Amen.

Even when we are faithless, God remains faithful. Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners. You who were lost have been found. In the name of ☩ Jesus, your sins are forgiven! **Amen.**

Hymn

“My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less”

ELW 597

Greeting

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all. **C And also with you.**

Refrain

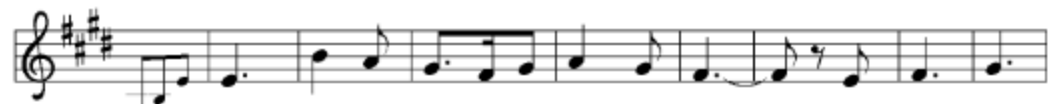
Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion, all of cre - a - tion



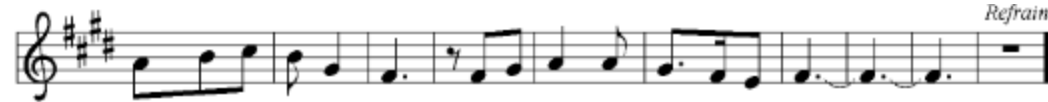
sings for joy to the God of life and love and free-dom;



praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!



1 Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has



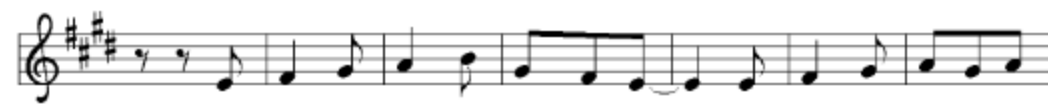
freed and u - nit-ed us to be one great peo-ple of God.

Refrain

2 Pow - er and rich-es, wis-dom and might, all hon - or and



glo - ry to Christ for - ev - er.

Refrain

3 For God has come to dwell with us, to make us peo-ple of



God; to make all things new.

Refrain

Prayer of the Day

P Benevolent, merciful God: When we are empty, fill us. When we are weak in faith, strengthen us. When we are cold in love, warm us, that with fervor we may love our neighbors and serve them for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Childrens Sermon

THE READINGS

The First Reading: Habakkuk 1:1-4, 2:1-4

¹ The oracle that the prophet Habakkuk saw.

² O LORD, how long shall I cry for help,
and you will not listen?

Or cry to you “Violence!”
and you will not save?

³ Why do you make me see wrongdoing
and look at trouble?

Destruction and violence are before me;
strife and contention arise.

⁴ So the law becomes slack,
and justice never prevails.

The wicked surround the righteous;
therefore judgment comes forth perverted.

^{2:1} I will stand at my watch post
and station myself on the rampart;

I will keep watch to see what he will say to me
and what he will answer concerning my complaint.

² Then the LORD answered me and said:

Write the vision;
make it plain on tablets,
so that a runner may read it.

³ For there is still a vision for the appointed time;
it speaks of the end and does not lie.

If it seems to tarry, wait for it;
it will surely come; it will not delay.

⁴ Look at the proud!

Their spirit is not right in them,
but the righteous live by their faithfulness.

L The Word of the Lord **C Thanks be to God!**

The Second Reading: 2 Timothy 1:1-14

¹ Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, for the sake of the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus,

² To Timothy, my beloved child:

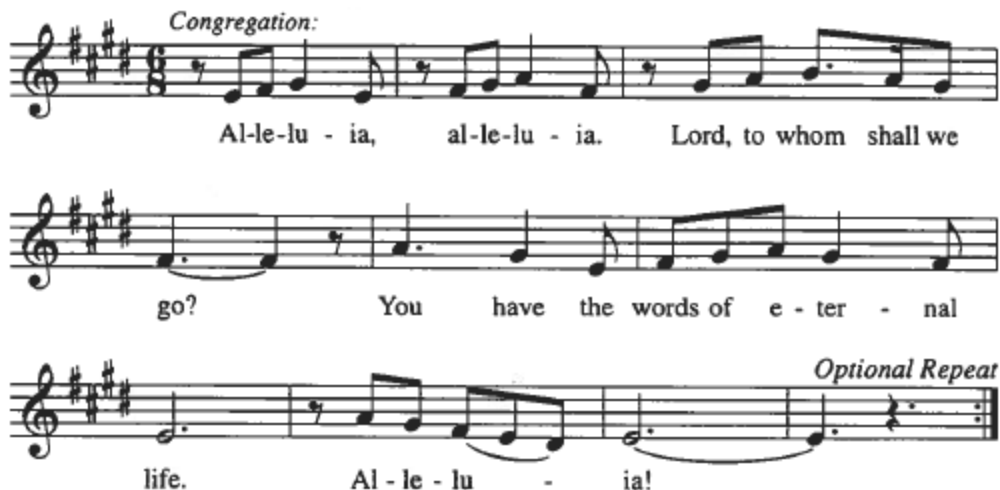
Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

³ I am grateful to God—whom I worship with a clear conscience, as my ancestors did—when I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day.

⁴ Recalling your tears, I long to see you so that I may be filled with joy. ⁵ I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, lives in you. ⁶ For this reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands, ⁷ for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline.

⁸ Do not be ashamed, then, of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner, but join with me in suffering for the gospel, in the power of God, ⁹ who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works but according to his own purpose and grace, and this grace was given to us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, ¹⁰ but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior Jesus Christ, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. ¹¹ For this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher, ¹² and for this reason I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know the one in whom I have put my trust, and I am sure that he is able to guard until that day the deposit I have entrusted to him. ¹³ Hold to the standard of sound teaching that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. ¹⁴ Guard the good deposit entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us.

L The Word of the Lord **C Thanks be to God!**



The Holy Gospel: Luke 17:5-10

P The Holy Gospel according to.... **C** Glory to you, O Lord!

⁵ The apostles said to the Lord, “Increase our faith!” ⁶ The Lord replied, “If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, ‘Be uprooted and planted in the sea,’ and it would obey you.

⁷ “Who among you would say to your slave who has just come in from plowing or tending sheep in the field, ‘Come here at once and take your place at the table’?

⁸ Would you not rather say to him, ‘Prepare supper for me; put on your apron and serve me while I eat and drink; later you may eat and drink’? ⁹ Do you thank the slave for doing what was commanded? ¹⁰ So you also, when you have done all that you were ordered to do, say, ‘We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!’ ”

P The Gospel of the Lord! **C** Praise to you, O Christ!

Sermon

“There’s Still a Vision”

Pastor Mike Hanck

Hymn

“What Is the World Like”

ACS 047





done? done? done? done? parts,
 Mus - tard seeds grow more than
 Wit - ness the wan - der - ing
 No more is neigh - bor just
 Read - y for feast - ing, we
 parts, filled with the Spir - it who

we can con - ceive: roots thread the
 child com - ing home; watch as the
 al - ly or friend; peace thrives in
 watch through the night, tend - ing our
 joins us as one. Born through our

soil; branch - es reach for the sun.
 par - ent breaks in - to a run.
 plac - es where once there was none.
 lamps till the new day's be - gun.
 voic - es, our hands, and our hearts,

This is how God moves us each to be - lieve.
 This is how God longs for us when we roam.
 This is how God works when ri - val - ries end.
 This is how God read - ies us for the light.
 this is a new world where God's will is done.

The Apostles' Creed

C I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day, he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

WE DEDICATE OUR HEARTS IN PRAYER

P Renewed in God's everlasting grace, let us pray for the church, the world, and all creation.

A brief silence.

AM O God of the church, you give the church a treasure in Jesus Christ. Draw us into the gift of faith passed down from generation to generation. Remind your people that faith the size of a mustard seed is enough. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

AM O God of creation, you nourish the earth with grace and mercy. Bring favorable weather during the harvest season and sustain all creation along with all who labor in the field. Ensure the welfare of animal companions whose presence offers comfort, safety, and joy. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

AM O God of nations and communities, you govern and guard the world. Give leaders and people in authority a spirit of making just and righteous laws. Bring peace to countries affected by war and violence. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

AM O God of those in need, you care for those who are sick, oppressed, bereaved, lonely, and poor. Come to the help of all in need; **Tom Jennings, Sue & Jim Enk, Christal & Chad Pritchard, Frank O'Konski, Luke Holtz, Ron Hetherwick, Jake Cope, Virginia Dillon, Staci, Martina Benton, Laura Reimer, Greg Urbanski, Matt Jurrus, Sally, Tom Druschel, Cindy Hartbarger, Tom Thorne, Jessica Queen, Dave and Cindy Hollinger, Phyllis Valentine, Phyllis Sturgeon, David Reimer, Jacki Sutter, Matt, Bonnie Williams....** and all others whom we remember in silence. Please help us to trust that you will come to us at the right time. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

AM O God of this congregation, you nurture our faith. Thank you for those of all ages who teach, lead, and learn in this congregation and beyond. Give growth to the seeds of faith watered by faithful examples of baptismal living. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

AM O God of ages past, thank you for the witness of those who have died in faith. May the faith of those who now rest in your merciful arms, like Lois and Eunice, shape our faith in your Son, Jesus Christ. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

P We entrust these prayers to you, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend. **Amen.**

THE MEAL

All Christians are welcome to commune at our Altar. You do not have to be a member of this congregation to receive Communion. Grape juice is available in the inner ring of glasses for those desiring it.

Sharing of the Peace

P The Peace of the Lord be with you all! **C** And also with you!
Share an expression of peace with your neighbor, please.

Our Tithes and Offering *Bring your gifts to the Altar, or you may offer gifts in the tray located at the rear of the sanctuary. Thank you.*

Offering Prayer

AM Lord of the harvest, we return to you a portion of what you have given to us. Turn us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches, but on you, who richly provides for us. Multiply what we have gathered to bless all who are suffering and in need, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The musical score for "The Great Thanksgiving" is written for a single melodic line in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It is divided into four staves, with lyrics written below the notes. The first staff is for the "President" and the second through fourth staves are for the "Congregation".

President:

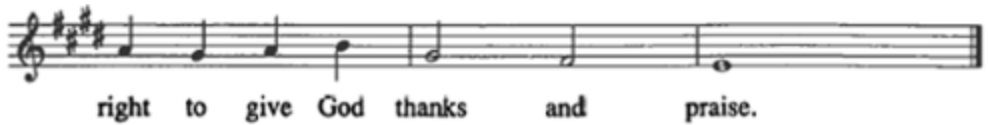
The Lord be with you. And al - so with

Congregation:

you. Lift up your hearts. We

lift them to the Lord. Let us give

thanks to the Lord our God. It is



****Eucharistic Prayer Continues**

HOLY

Congregation:

A series of five lines of musical notation for a congregational song. The key signature has three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The first line is in 6/8 time. The second line has a 3/8 time signature. The third line is in 6/8 time. The fourth line is in 6/8 time. The fifth line is in 6/8 time. The lyrics are: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and might; Heav - en and earth are filled with your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est! Bless - ed is the One who comes in your name. Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!"

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and
might; Heav - en and earth are filled with your
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est!
Bless - ed is the One who comes in your name. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!

The Words of Institution

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Jesus said, Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Jesus said, Do this for the remembrance of me.

The Lord's Prayer

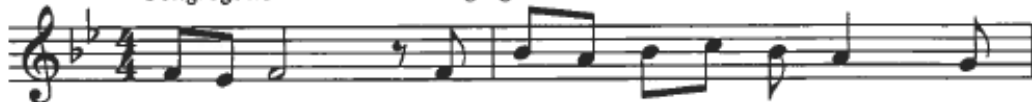
P Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray... **C** Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Communion Hymns

"Lamb of God"

Congregation:

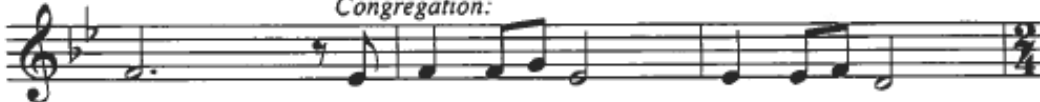
Congregation or Assistant:



Lamb of God,

you take a - way the sin of the
you break the chains of ha - tred and
you are the way of jus - tice and
you are the way of mer - cy and

Congregation:



world:
fear:
peace:
love.

have mer - cy on us, mer - cy on us,

Final Stanza

Congregation or Assistant:



mer - cy on us.

Lamb of God, you

Congregation:



take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace,



grant us peace, grant us peace.

Hymn

“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”
“My Faith Looks Up to Thee”

ELW 733
ELW 759

Post Communion Blessing

Prayer after Communion

AM O God, through this meal you have strengthened us and appointed us to be your servants. Send us to do good and to share our possessions with all in need.

We ask this in Jesus’ name. **Amen.**

Prayer at the Sending of Communion

P Eternal God, whose glory is revealed in the crucified and risen Lord, bless those who go forth to share your word and sacrament with our sisters and brothers who are *sick or homebound*. In your love and care, nourish and strengthen those to whom we bring this communion in the body and blood of your Son, that we may all feast upon your abundant love made known in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Blessing of the LWR School Kits

THE SENDING

Milestones & Announcements:

The Blessing

P The God of righteousness, who gives justice to the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry, who sets the prisoners free, ☩ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn

“Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing”

ELW 545

Dismissal

AM Go in peace. Do not lose heart. **Thanks be to God.**

AM And next week, **C Bring a friend!**

Postlude

Making Jesus Known”

Welcome to Community of Christ! We welcome YOU to worship with us at one of our TWO worship services. Join us at **8:00 a.m. or 10:00 a.m.** in person or on Facebook Live. We look forward to seeing you, and as always, **BRING A FRIEND!!!!**

New for Fall Adult Forum: Who Is My Neighbor? Our Adult Forum starts the fall season off with a new series we are calling, “Who Is My Neighbor?”, which is inspired, as you can imagine, from the question in the gospel that prompts the story we call the Good Samaritan, where Jesus shows us that anyone God sends across our path is a neighbor, and therefore someone for us to love and be loved by. During the weeks of this series, during the 9:00 a.m. hour (between services) we will get the chance to hear from voices who can speak to the experience of neighbors near and far whose stories and needs might be quite similar to our own, or very different. We’ll get to hear from folks like Pastor Mike Hanck about the community being built by the “Norf-End Neighbors” in the Vistula neighborhood of Toledo, Synod Staff member Calla Gilson, who has spent time doing Young Adult Global Mission work in Israel and Palestine, and others who can share about different communities of neighbors around us in the world that God loves. Join us for these conversations throughout September and into October!

Thursday Afternoon Bible Study: “Faithful Rebels—Case Studies in Devout Defiance” Continuing into October, our Thursday Afternoon Bible Study is engaged in an original series we’re calling “Faithful Rebels,” looking at stories of holy troublemakers who went against the flow, spoke up against the powers of the day, or witnesses in countercultural ways in their own times and places. From the Hebrew midwives in Pharaoh’s Egypt who saved the babies that the king ordered to be killed to prophets like Elijah challenging their own leaders, to the men in the fiery furnace refusing to bow down to a golden statue of an arrogant king, the Bible is full of stories in which God worked through people who bravely stood up against the expectations (or official decrees!) of the day as part of their way of living out their faith, caring for those in danger, or pointing to the presence of God in the world. If you have been looking for a good jumping-on point to join a Bible study, this is a great chance to join us! We meet every Thursday at 1:00 p.m. in the Bible Study/Council Room here at the church, and we’ll continue to share video summaries each week on the church Facebook page and on YouTube in case you can’t be with us in person. Join us this fall to explore stories of devout defiance from faithful rebels!



Support Salem Lutheran's Tree Planting! As part of our partnership with Salem Lutheran in the Vistula neighborhood of Toledo, we are helping to raise money for additional fruit trees in the growing arboretum Pastor Mike is creating adjacent to the church. The Social Action Committee has taken the same "Abundance is meant to be shared" logo and made it into a canvas tote bag. These are great for wrapping gifts instead of using paper, grocery bags, or carrying your personal items throughout the day. For a **\$5.00 donation** for each bag, you can also help us support Salem with these additional trees. **As of 09/28/2025, we have raised \$580.00 out of our goal of \$1,000.00.** If possible, we'd love your help in reaching our goal! Remember, as Jesus says, "To whom much is given, much is required," or in other words, *abundance is meant to be shared!*

Join Us to Plant Trees at Salem--Sunday, Oct. 12 at 1:00 p.m.! Coming up NEXT SUNDAY, October 12, we will be helping to plant trees at the budding (no pun intended—well, maybe a little!) arboretum adjacent to Salem Lutheran Church as Pastor Mike Hanck and the Norf-End Neighbors organization continue to help improve their community in the Vistula neighborhood of downtown Toledo. We can use YOUR help planting these trees next Sunday, departing from the church at 1:00 p.m., heading up to Salem, and planting the trees on site there. If you can join us, we'd love your help and hands--bring a shovel, post-hole digger, work gloves, clothes you can get dirty and sweaty in, and/or any other tools you think might be helpful. Sign up at the kiosk and see Pastor Steve with any questions!

Salem Trunk or Treat! Salem Lutheran in Toledo has invited us to participate in their Trunk or Treat activity on **Saturday, October 11, from 1 p.m. – 3 p.m.** If you are interested in participating in the event, please sign up at the kiosk! If you are unable to attend but would still like to participate, you can donate bags of candy! Please drop them off this weekend or no later than Thursday, October 9, by 3:00 p.m. **OR** if you would like to attend but need a ride, please sign up at the kiosk and meet at the church by 12:00 p.m.

Offering Our Time, Talent, and Treasure for 2026: If you're given a gift—say, for your birthday or at Christmas—it's a terrible thing to leave it wrapped in the paper. It's a shame if someone has gone to the trouble of choosing something for you that they hope you will enjoy, and you leave it in the packaging forever unopened. On the flip side, when you receive a thoughtful gift and use it, everyone's lives are enriched. Your relationship with the giver is deepened, your joy is increased, and the same is probably true of the people around you whose lives are made better because you are

using your gift well. It's the same, really, in our relationships with God and with one another: when we use the gifts God has given us, our relationship with God is deepened, our joy is increased, and we make the world a better place for the people around us, too! That's why this fall, we are inviting everyone at Community of Christ to prayerfully consider how YOU will use your time, *talent*, and treasure—all gifts from God—in the year ahead, with our Time and Talent forms, and our invitations to Financial Commitment for the year 2026! You've already been given incredible gifts by God: the hours in each day, the abilities and interests that make us unique, and the resources we live on. Those are already in your hands, like a present waiting to be unwrapped and taken out of the box. This September, when you and your household receive the Time and Talent forms and Invitation to Financial Commitment forms for our church family, you have the opportunity to use those gifts with joy and gratitude! We're asking for you to complete those and return them to the church by October 12, so that we can get new volunteers connected with the ways they are being led to serve, and so that we can make our proposed 2026 budget grounded in realistic expectations of our planned giving.

Now, maybe you're wondering, "How do my gifts and talents fit in our church family, and where do we need volunteers here at Community of Christ?" Well, good news there, too! At our October 11-12 Festival of Talents weekend, we'll have displays representing each of the areas of ministry in our congregation so you can learn more about what we do and how you can be a part of it. Think of it like a career fair or college expo, but for serving God and God's people—check out the displays for each ministry at Community of Christ and let that help guide where you might serve in the year ahead! It's all about opening up the gifts God has already given us!

Calling All Talented Saints (That's You!) **2025 Festival of Talents on Oct. 11 at 7:00 p.m.** We need YOU! OR better yet, we want to celebrate and honor *your* talents and abilities together with our whole church family! We are thrilled to invite you to our second annual Festival of Talents on October 11-12! This special event will showcase the incredible talents and creativity of our church family, spanning all ages and interests. **Event Highlights - Talent Showcase:** Do you sing, play an instrument, or have a special talent to share? We welcome performances of all kinds! - **Art and Handcrafts:** Display your artwork, quilts, afghans, handcrafts, and woodworking projects in our gallery-style exhibition. - **Community Engagement:** Learn more about our congregational committees and ministries. Discover how you can get involved and make a difference. - **Stories of Impact:** Share how you used the dollar bill received last October to benefit others. Whether it was through acts of kindness, donations, or community projects, your stories inspire us all.

Schedule: - Saturday, October 11: Talent showcase and exhibition in the fellowship hall. - Sunday, October 12: Special worship service celebrating our talents and stories of impact.

Get Involved: Whether you want to perform, display your creations, or simply enjoy the festivities, there's something for everyone at the Festival of Talents. Come, celebrate with us as we recognize and cherish the gifts bestowed upon us!

Mail a Smile & Share God's Love! Let's brighten the days of our **Military and College students** with notes, cards, and little treats! Pick up an updated address list in the **gathering space** and help us "**Make Jesus Known**" while they're away. Your kindness can make a big difference! You can pick up a list from the large table in the gathering space.

October Ladies Lunch – Last One of 2025! Ladies, let's make the final lunch of the year a special one! Join us at Biaggi's Ristorante Italiano (Levi's Commons, Perrysburg, OH) on Friday, October 24, at 11:30 a.m. Bring a friend and enjoy good food and great company! Sign up at the kiosk so we can reserve your spot. Questions? Call Becky King at 419-349-7319. Don't miss out, it's the perfect way to catch up before the year ends!

Boo to Do – A Night of Fun! Thursday, October 23, 2025, 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.
Downtown Waterville Put on your favorite costume and join us for Boo to Do in Downtown Waterville! Community of Christ members, along with local businesses, will be ready with candy, stickers, and small toys to make your evening extra sweet. When you're done filling up your treat bag, stop by the end of Farnsworth Road by River Road to enjoy tasty bites from four yummy food trucks: Detroit Mini Donut, Jimbo's Tasty Chili Dogs, Susie Lynne's Lemonade, and Toledo Chuck Wagon. Bring your family, bring your friends, and don't forget your candy bucket—it's going to be a joyful night for everyone!

Cookie Sunday is fast approaching, October 19! We will need volunteers to help bake and frost cookies on **Friday, October 17, from 9:00 to 12:00 p.m.** We will need volunteers to help package the cookies in the afternoon as well! If you can come for the entire time, great! If you only have an hour to give that day, that is welcome too! Please see the sign-up at the kiosk. As we have done in the past, there will be bags of 6 cookies each to hand out to those who would like to brighten someone's day, whether it be a friend, teacher, co-worker, grandparent, etc. These bags will be handed out after both the 8:00 and 10:00 services on the 19th.

Casseroles! We will be preparing casseroles on **Thursday, October 23, from 9:00 to noon**. If you can come the entire time, great! If you only have an hour to give, that is welcome too! There will be cards for donations of ingredients in the pocket chart located on the side of the refrigerator in the kitchen. Thank you to everyone who has donated either the ingredients for the casseroles, money to buy the ingredients, or their time to prepare the casseroles. We appreciate your help! Sign up at the kiosk for the 23rd.

Corn Maze Craze – October 19 Our next Anthony Wayne Area Youth Group event is right around the corner! On **Saturday, October 19**, we'll load up the buses at **Community of Christ at 2:15 p.m.** and head to **Gust Brothers Farm** for an afternoon of fall fun—complete with a corn maze, hayride, petting zoo, and fresh doughnuts. All youth in **grades 7–12** are welcome—so bring a friend and join us for this adventure!

What's Happening

Visitation Ministry
Monday, October 6, 10:30 a.m.
Care Givers Meeting
Monday, October 6, 6:30 p.m.
LWR Quilt Ministry
Tuesday, October 7, 10:00 a.m.
Outreach
Tuesday, October 7, 7:00 p.m.
Choir Practice
Wednesday, October 8, 7:00 p.m.
Thursday Bible Study
Thursday, October 9, 1:00 p.m.
Bell Choir
Thursday, October 9, 7:00 p.m.

Conversations and More
Friday, October 10, 1:00 p.m.
2025 Festival of Talents Showcase & Exhibition
Saturday, October 11, 7:00 p.m.
Salem Trunk or Treat @ Salem
Saturday, October 11, 1-3:00 p.m.
Salem Tree Planting
Sunday, October 12, 1:00 p.m.
Youth Group @ CoC
Sunday, October 12, 7:00 p.m.
Invitation to Financial Commitment Cards & Time and Talent Forms Due
Sunday, October 12
Church Office Closed
Monday, October 13



Altar Flowers given by Carol Wiemken for Blessings! 🙏❤️