



Pastor Steve Bond  
 pastor@commofchrist.org  
 6517 Finzel Rd  
 Whitehouse, OH 43571  
 419-877-0607  
[www.commfchrist.org](http://www.commfchrist.org)



COMMUNITY OF CHRIST  
 LUTHERAN CHURCH  
*Making Jesus Known*



**May 2026**

**Being Easter People—May (Eastertide and Pentecost) 2026**

It started with an empty tomb—but it didn't end there.

Every year, we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus on Easter morning with the news of the stone rolled away and the empty tomb. But of course, that's not the end of the story; in a sense, it's really just a beginning. In particular, it's the beginning of a new community, made up of people who have encountered the risen Christ and been brought into his family.

And yeah, at first, that's a pretty small group—just a few eyewitnesses who ventured out to the garden before dawn. But soon, Jesus starts showing up to gather people to himself: behind locked doors as the disciples are still huddled in fear, on the road to Emmaus, and in other unexpected appearances. Eventually, on the Day of Pentecost, the Spirit now sends the followers of Jesus to reach out even further to tell anyone and everyone they can find about what God has done in Jesus, and how God is bringing them—and all creation—back to life. And somewhere along the way, over the span of twenty centuries, you and I were pulled into the story, too. We are here because the story that began with Easter morning continues on and includes us. We are a part of the story, too, now, because we are a part of those Easter people who witness to Jesus' ongoing presence and the Spirit's ongoing action in the world.

Following Jesus will always bring us into connection with that community of fellow disciples, just like the risen Jesus was always gathering people into community. The disciples at Emmaus get up and run back into the city of Jerusalem to tell the rest of the disciples, "The Lord has risen indeed!" Thomas, who had been missing when Jesus first appeared, gets specifically invited to touch Jesus' wounds so that he can share their faith. The folks who hear the news on Pentecost are all invited to become a part of the community called "church" as they respond to the Good News, rather than to simply go back home unchanged and isolated. We are always being brought into connection and into community with the rest of the "found family" of God.

And this May, you'll see it happening again. Our confirmands, who have spent the last two years learning the story of the Bible and the essentials of the faith in the Catechism, will not only affirm their baptism but also become adult members of our congregation in that same milestone of faith. They'll be asked, not only about what they *believe* about God, but also about how they will *continue in a relationship* with God's people in our serving, loving, worshiping, and growing together. You'll see it in the opportunities we have to learn together in Bible study, or in our newly forming group of young adults and families meeting for dinner and conversation once a month. You'll see it in our gatherings for worship, too. And every time we gather with other followers of Jesus, in any of those ways, we'll be reminded: the story didn't end with the empty tomb. God is just getting going among us.

Sharing the journey with you gratefully,  
 Pastor Steve

**Worship Hours**  
**Sunday,**  
**May 3, 10, & 17**  
**8 a.m. & 10 a.m.**

**Sunday Morning**  
**Bible Study**  
 9:15 a.m.

**Pastor's Bible**  
**Study**

Thursdays 1:00 p.m.

**Visitation Ministry**  
 May 4, 10:30 a.m.

**Social Action**  
 May 6, 10:00 a.m.

**Worship & Music**  
 May 7, 10:00 a.m.

**Stewardship**  
 May 7, 6:00 p.m.

**Outreach**  
 May 5, 7:00 p.m.

**Christian Ed.**  
 May 11, 6:30 p.m.

**Concert Committee**  
 May 12, 6:00 p.m.

**Council Meeting**  
 May 12, 7:00 p.m.

**Worship Services**  
 Available at  
[www.commfchrist.org](http://www.commfchrist.org)

**Summer**  
**Worship Hours**  
**9:00 a.m.**  
**May 24 -**  
**September 13**





# GROWING IN GOD'S WORD

## On Crazy Faith Talk Podcast: Why Does End-Times Theology Matter?

Our weekly podcast, “*Crazy Faith Talk*,” offers conversation and insights looking at a variety of topics, subjects, and ideas from faith and church life to pop culture and everything in between. *Crazy Faith Talk* releases new episodes every Tuesday at noon, and you can listen for free, either by finding the link on our Facebook page or by asking your Smart Speaker (like Amazon Echo) to play the podcast “Crazy Faith Talk.” Crazy Faith Talk is also now on Spotify! If you like to listen to music or podcasts using the Spotify app, you can find Crazy Faith Talk there! *Crazy Faith Talk* features our own Pastor Steve, and two other colleagues in ministry: Sarah Aasheim, an ELCA pastor serving in eastern Pennsylvania, and Methodist colleague Erica Wellner, who is serving in central Pennsylvania. And even though her time with us as an intern and vicar is complete, we are excited to share that Natalie Downs will be continuing presently on the podcast as a voice around the conversation, too! So even though we won’t see her on Sunday mornings any longer, we can still hear her voice in the mix as we explore topics of all sorts with each week’s episode. Think of it like being invited around the table to listen in to pastors talking through their own faith, questions, and struggles, and being able to take the conversation with you, listen, and reflect on wherever you go—in the car, from your smart-speaker, or on your phone or tablet.

As May begins, we’re in the middle of a new series that will explore how we think about the “end times” and why it makes a difference in our very real present-day lives. Since notions of a secret “rapture” of believers are only about 200 years old, what does a more authentically *biblical* understanding of Jesus’ coming in glory look like? We’ll explore questions that are very much relevant to our day and time, like, “Is there anything we can do to either hurry along Jesus’ coming or delay it through our actions?” and “Does Jesus need human assistance to defeat the powers of evil in some kind of cosmic battle?” And we’ll even take a closer look at phrases and ideas from the book of Revelation and other passages that many folks assume they know the meaning of, like “Armageddon” or “antichrist,” only to discover that the New Testament means something different than what pop culture has taught us. This series should be helpful for folks who have ever wondered, “What do we really think about Jesus’ coming again—and should I be afraid, or hopeful about it?” There’s something for everyone, so listen in and check out this series with our weekly posts on our church Facebook page or Twitter/X (@BeingGraced), by searching for “Crazy Faith Talk” on Spotify, or on your smart speaker!

---

## Adult Forum Explores Luther’s Small Catechism, Sundays at 9:00 a.m.

Continuing this May, our Adult Forum is inviting EVERYBODY to catechism! We’re inviting all who would like to join us to explore the essentials of the faith as summarized in Martin Luther’s Small Catechism. We’ll explore the meaning in our lives of the Ten Commandments, the Apostles’ Creed, the Lord’s Prayer, Holy Baptism, the Lord’s Supper, and the Christian Life, using the insights of Luther’s own “handbook for the faith” called the Small Catechism. Whether you first learned these things long ago in a confirmation class or you have never had a chance to study the catechism, this is a great chance to explore some of the Big Ideas of the Christian faith and get at why it all matters, and what it all means. Join us between services, continuing this spring in the Bible study/council room!



# GROWING IN GOD'S WORD

## Thursday Bible Study Opens Up the Book of Acts

Join us for our current series in our Thursday afternoon Bible Study, as we take a deep dive into the New Testament book of Acts to learn the story of the early church and how the band of rag-tag fishermen and tax collectors from Galilee grew into a movement that reached outward to the very heart of the Roman Empire and became a “found family” of Jewish and Gentile people, rich and poor, enslaved and free, women and men, and lived through the growing pains of that outreach to change the world. Join us weekly on Thursdays at 1:00 p.m. in the Bible Study/Council Room as we work through the book of Acts and let it spark our own ways of living out our faith and sharing the good news of Jesus in the world around us.

Remember, too, that we'll continue to share video catch-up sessions on our social media (see the church Facebook page) each week, so that you can know what we'll be looking at each week in case you miss a week, want to join in, or to share with a friend!

---

## A New Round of Spiritual Practices Coming Weekly This Summer!

In the summer of 2025, we offered the chance to explore a variety of *spiritual practices*—activities of different kinds that can deepen and enrich our faith and discipleship. Some of these are historic and long-standing in the sweep of church history, like the prayer labyrinth and the Daily Examen of Saint Ignatius of Loyola. Others are more recent developments, like the musical style of sung prayer refrains from Taize, France. And some were just plain fun and new angles on connecting faith with play and imagination, like LEGO building and improv. We hope you had the chance to participate in some of these events last summer, but we are even more hopeful that you'll join us for a new round of Spiritual Practices this coming summer, as we gather weekly once again for a series of ten **Wednesday** evenings from 6:30 p.m. -7:45 p.m. This summer, we are planning to introduce a variety of new practices, welcome some new faces and guest presenters, and dig deeper into several practices we could only scratch the surface of in 2025. Look for more details and a full slate of our scheduled practices and sign-up information coming soon, but for now, mark your calendars to join us on Wednesday evenings this summer for spiritual practices!

---

## Celebrating with our 2026 Confirmands!

This May 17, our confirmation class of 2026 will affirm their baptism at the 10:00am service as we celebrate their confirmations in faith! Join us to witness as Evan Ackerman, Anna Bond, Jillian Dewitz, and Jett Jenkins say YES back to the God who first said YES to them at the waters of baptism, and as they mark this milestone in their faith journey! You'll also be able to see a display of our confirmation class final projects for both first and second-year students, as well as the handprints and confirmation verses of our Class of 2026 Confirmands on our large canvas between the Gathering Space and the Fellowship Hall!





# Kids, Youth, and Teens!



## Sneak Preview: Summer Reading Club Returns Beginning June 10!

We had a blast last summer welcoming kids and families every week to a short time for sharing stories, singing songs, and opening the Mystery Bag with story hour times, and it was great to offer a bookshelf of faith-informed books for them to check out and read on their own through the summer, too. So, this summer, we are bringing back our weekly Summer Reading Club and Lending Library, and we want to invite YOU to save the dates to join us!

Beginning on June 10 and running on Wednesdays this summer through August 12, we'll be welcoming kids of all ages to join us from 9:30-10:00 a.m. every week for a time of stories, songs, fun, and friends. Bring a friend or neighbor, and we'll gather in the church library (the long classroom where our youngest Sunday School class meets on Sunday mornings).

But wait, there's more! You will also be able to find our bookshelf in the Gathering Space all summer, with a new collection of kid-friends' books as well as some of our favorites from last year, that you can borrow, read, and return. We're inviting you to read ten books over the course of the summer for a special prize at the end of the summer!

And if you are an adult who might be free on a Wednesday morning this summer and you would like to volunteer to be a guest reader of one of our stories, please reach out to Pastor Steve or Bryce and let us know—we'd be glad to welcome you to be a special guest on one or more of our Wednesday story times! See you this summer around a good book!

---

## Rooted Youth Event May 24

On May 24, Rooted has been invited to join youth from churches across Northwest Ohio for a special evening of connection and worship. The night will include time to hang out together, enjoy snacks, experience modern worship, and hear from a speaker who is close in age to our youth.

We will meet at the Community of Christ parking lot at 6:30 p.m. to carpool together to Epworth United Methodist Church and plan to return by 9:30 p.m.

Events like this are a wonderful opportunity for our youth to see that they are part of something bigger than just one congregation; they are part of the wider church.

Please RSVP by texting Bryce at (567) 522-0525 so we can plan rides accordingly.

## Updates from Rooted

Thanks to thoughtful input from the youth who help shape our time together each week, Rooted will be shifting its regular meeting time to 6:30–8:30 p.m. on Sunday evenings beginning May 31.

Summer also opens the door for us to try some new things together. In addition to our regular gatherings, we'll be planning a variety of outings and service opportunities in the months ahead. These experiences help us grow not only in faith, but also in friendship and in our care for the wider community.

Keep an eye out for more details as those opportunities take shape. We're looking forward to a meaningful and fun summer together.

---

## Save the Date!

On June 20, from 9:00–11:30 a.m., youth from the Anthony Wayne area will gather in our parking lot for a car wash fundraiser.

Youth are invited to come help out and stay afterward for pizza and fellowship. If you have a car, we'd love for you to stop by and have it cleaned while supporting our youth!



# Kids, Youth, and Teens!



## Sunday School Ending for the Year, Thank You to Our Teachers

Our final Sunday of childhood Sunday School for this program year will be May 17. As we wrap up another season of learning, growing, and wondering together, I want to take a moment to say thank you to the many volunteers who made this ministry possible week after week.

Sunday School doesn't happen without people who are willing to show up, prepare lessons, welcome questions, and create space for children to explore their faith. Through stories, activities, conversations, and care, our teachers help our youngest members discover that they belong in the life of the church and in God's story.

Thank you for the time, creativity, patience, and encouragement you share so generously with our children. Your presence matters more than you may ever fully see.

Rooted

# SCHOOL'S OUT CELEBRATION

*You made it through another school year! Come celebrate with us.*

Cornhole Tournament

Volleyball

Campfire

S'mores

Cookout

**MAY 28<sup>TH</sup> 6-10PM**  
6-12<sup>TH</sup> GRADERS WELCOME

Providence Lutheran Church  
8131 Airport Hwy. Holland OH  
RSVP by texting  
"SCHOOLSOUT" to (567) 522-0525





# Worship Volunteer Schedule

## May 2026



Week	May 3, 8 & 10 a.m.	May 10, 8 & 10 a.m.	May 17, 8 & 10 a.m.	May 24 – 9 a.m.	May 31 – 9 a.m.
<b>Acolyte/Crucifer 8:00</b>	Teresa Loga	Teresa Loga	Teresa Loga	None Needed	None Needed
<b>Acolyte/Crucifer 10:00</b>	Vol Needed	Vol Needed	Kevin Swagler	Teresa Loga	Teresa Loga
<b>Bulletin 8:00</b>	Vol Needed	Connie Hudson	Vol Needed	None Needed	None Needed
<b>Bulletin 10:00</b>	Kevin Swagler	Vol Needed	Vol Needed	Vol Needed	Vol Needed
<b>Camera 10:00</b>	Neil Raymond	Sarah Rockwell	Kevin Swagler	Vol Needed	Rick Yokum
<b>Communion Prep/Clean 8:00</b>	Josef Perkins	Sue Brown	Sharon Miller	None Needed	None Needed
<b>Communion Prep/Clean 10:00</b>	Susan Raymond	Jill Kohntopp	Kari Swagler	Vol Needed	Vol Needed
<b>Greeter 8:00 East</b>	Rick Metcalf	Marilyn Pratt	Vol Needed	None Needed	None Needed
<b>Greeter 8:00 West</b>	Linda Metcalf	Richard Pratt	Rebecca Jaessing	None Needed	None Needed
<b>Greeter 10:00 East</b>	Natalie Rilling	Dean Nofzinger	Vol Needed	Rob Kohntopp	Rebecca Jaessing
<b>Greeter 10:00 West</b>	Chris Rilling	Vol Needed	Vol Needed	Jill Kohntopp	Vol Needed
<b>Lector 8:00</b>	Josef Perkins	Teresa Loga	Rebecca Jaessing	None Needed	None Needed
<b>Lector 10:00</b>	Carol Wiemken	Tammy Myers	Carol Wiemken	Greg Aubell	Teresa Loga
<b>Worship Asst 8:00</b>	Josef Perkins	Teresa Loga	Vol Needed	None Needed	None Needed
<b>Worship Asst 10:00</b>	Dean Nofzinger	Kevin Swagler	Don Schroeder	Teresa Loga	Kathryn Whitacre
<b>Verger 8:00</b>	Vol Needed	Vol Needed	Vol Needed	None Needed	None Needed
<b>Verger 10:00</b>	Vol Needed	Vol Needed	Vol Needed	Vol Needed	Vol Needed

**\*\*Volunteer list as of 4/13/2026. If you need to cancel your scheduled date, please arrange for another volunteer to take your place and fill your time slot. Remember to cancel your slot on Sign-Up Genius so the person covering for you can sign up.**

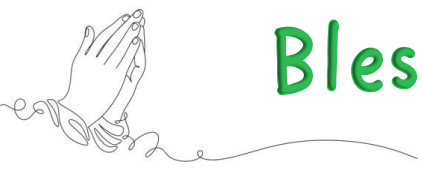
**Lectors:** The readings are available for preview on our website at [www.commofchrist.org](http://www.commofchrist.org) under “Worship and Bulletins” and then the appropriate bulletin date.

**Bulletin Assistants:** Arrive 15 minutes before service to pass out bulletins. Count the number of people in attendance (including worship volunteers and all in the nursery if applicable) and mark this number on the chart inside the kiosk.

**Door Greeters:** Arrive 15 minutes before service to greet members and visitors at the doors of both entrances of the church.

**The Verger:** is a caretaker role who keeps their eyes and ears open to lend a hand for any need that arises with congregants or worship providers during the service.

Should you have any questions, please contact Laurie Mauro at (419) 877-5366. Thank you all for your time and attention to helping make our Worship Services run smoothly!



# Blessings, Prayers & More

# Prayers

## PRAYING FOR GOD'S PEOPLE

**REMEMBER THE FOLLOWING IN OUR DAILY PRAYERS FOR ALL WHO ARE ILL, SHUT IN, RECENTLY HOSPITALIZED, MILITARY, OR IN NEED OF PRAYER:**

PAUL AYRES, JEFF BUCHER, CAROL BORKOWSKI, VIRGINIA DILLON, TOM DRUSCHEL, JIM & SUE ENK, CHERYL FISCHER, GREG GANELLI, JIM GEBHART, LARRY GEER, PAULA GRUHLER, RON HETHERWICK, LUKE HOLTZ, ART INGMIRE, TOM JENNINGS, MATT JURRUS, TRISTAN KIMMEY, PAUL LADD, CAROL MASON, MILES MCGINNIS, DOROTHY PETRELL, ALBERT PRESTON, CHRISTAL & CHAD PRITCHARD, STACI, DICK RISON, PHYLLIS STURGEON  
**MILITARY:** JAY RASMUSSEN, NOAH PITZEN, AUSTIN CUNNINGHAM, JAKE COPE, LANDON CHRISTY, DREW TROTTER, DAVID ATKINSON, RYAN DUNN

Prayer Requests



### Prayers of the Church

To keep our prayer requests current and fresh in worship, we update our prayer list every two weeks. The names you provide will be included in the congregation's prayers for two weeks. If you want to renew your prayer request, please use the form available in the gathering area or contact the church office. Thank you. Continue to pray for one another!



### Children's Sermon

Children of all ages, please join Pastor Steve for a Children's Sermon at the 9:00 a.m. service. This is the Pastor's time to share the good news of Jesus with our younger friends! He'll even have a sticker waiting just for YOU!!!!



We hold the families of James (Jim) Gebhart and LuAnn Shuman in our prayers, asking our Lord to surround them with peace and comfort in the days ahead.

### Prayer Shawls

If you are interested in making a prayer shawl or know of someone who would be blessed by receiving a prayer shawl, please get in touch with Irene Rang at 269-832-7714



# CoC Ministry Dates to Remember



VISITATION MINISTRY

**Next Meeting Date**  
May 4 @ 10:30 a.m.



Outreach

**Next Meeting Date**  
May 5 @ 7:00 p.m.



SOCIAL ACTION  
MINISTRY

**Next Meeting Date**  
May 6 @ 10:00 a.m.



**Next Meeting Date**  
May 7 @ 10:00 a.m.



**Next Meeting Date**  
May 7 @ 6:00 p.m.



**Next Meeting Date**  
May 11 @ 6:30 p.m.



**Next Meeting Date**  
May 12 @ 6:00 p.m.



**Next Meeting Date**  
May 12 @ 7:00 p.m.

**Church Office Hours**  
8:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.  
(Monday through Friday)

**Please note.....**

Hours may vary with vacations.  
Please call ahead ☺



**Summer Worship Hours**  
begin Sunday, May 24 @  
9:00 a.m.



Honor **the gift of Mother**  
and our families! Sunday, May 10.





# Announcements



## Young Adults and Families Gathering—May 16, 5:00-6:30 p.m.

Over the past several months, several of our young families and young adults at Community of Christ have been brainstorming and considering the idea of regular monthly gatherings for fellowship, conversation, a simple shared meal, and some explorations of our faith. In April, we kicked off what we hope will be a monthly time for a shared meal, with child-care provided, here at the church, with a regular time of 5:00-6:30 p.m. (time enough for eating and conversation but also brief enough that kiddos with early bedtimes can get home, too). And now we are continuing in May with a gathering on the evening of Saturday, May 16. We'd like to invite you to join us—and if so, to RSVP by **Thursday, May 7**--for a gathering with other young adults and families, good food, and some deeper conversation. As we get closer we'll send a follow-up email inviting those who can attend to update on menu plans and other details, but for now we just want to invite you to SAVE THE DATE and hopefully plan to join us, knowing that we'll have some youth lined up to help with keeping an eye on kiddos after we eat so that our time can also include more focused conversation. RSVP to Pastor Steve or Michelle in the church office ([secretary@commofchrist.org](mailto:secretary@commofchrist.org)) by May 7 to join us this month!

## New “Go Team Jesus” Stickers to Help Support Salem!

Check out our new foam-finger-inspired stickers that say, “Go Team Jesus!” in several different colors, on the table in the Gathering Space! We'd invite you to get one or more, which are perfect for putting on your laptop, travel mug, phone case, notebook, or car bumper, and we'd invite your donations of \$3.00 each or two for \$5.00, which we'll use to help support our mission partnerships with Salem Lutheran Church in the north end of Toledo. Get yours today!



Community of Christ  
Lutheran Church  

---

Risk Management Task Force

## Risk Management Task Force – Volunteers Needed!

We are forming a Risk Management Task Force and are seeking members of the congregation who would be interested in serving. This team will help review and strengthen practices across all areas of church life to minimize risk and promote a safe, secure, and welcoming environment for all. We are looking for individuals who are thoughtful, attentive, and willing to share their time and insight in this important work. If you have experience in areas such as safety, facilities, health care, or simply have a heart for helping our church operate responsibly, we would love to have you join us. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact Kevin Steinman at 419-707-1943 or the church office. Thank you for considering this opportunity to serve!



# Announcements



WE NEED YOU to get your walking shoes on! The 43<sup>rd</sup> annual Whitehouse **Cherry Fest** is coming up, and we'd love for you to join the Outreach Committee in walking in the parade on **Saturday, June 13<sup>th</sup>**. The 1-mile stroll lines up on Oakbrook Dr at noon, the parade kicks off at 1 p.m., and will take you down Waterville Street to Providence Street and through downtown Whitehouse. Candy for passing out will be provided, just bring your smile! Please sign up on the sheet located at the kiosk; the exact meeting spot at Oakbrook will be determined closer to parade day.

## First Quarter Giving & Looking Ahead

Thanks to the generosity of our congregation, we are pleased to share that a total of **\$993.20** was collected through our first quarter Thank You Fund offering and Noisy Fund offering. These gifts have been directed to support the important work of **Genacross Lutheran Services**, helping to care for and uplift those in need in our community.

As we move into the second quarter, our offerings will be designated to support **Bridges of Hope**, continuing our mission of compassion and outreach. Thank you for your ongoing generosity and commitment to making a difference!

## Outreach Offers Welcome Cards to Share!

Every Sunday, we are dared to "next week, bring a friend" to worship, and we keep coming back to our guiding vision of "making Jesus known." So... how exactly would we do that? What could it look like? The Outreach Committee is always looking for ways to equip the whole congregation with simple ways to connect with others, share our faith, or open the doors for those kinds of invitations. So this spring, we have a new simple resource, which we're calling "Welcome Cards," which you can get in the Gathering Space on the large glass table, as something to keep with you to give to a neighbor, friend, family member, or anybody else you think might be open to visiting Community of Christ or finding out more about us. They're full color and postcard-sized and have essential information about our worship times and links to our website and social media, so they can be a physical resource to point people to learn more or join us in person. You can take some and have them handy in your car, briefcase, purse, or jacket pocket, and then if you are in a situation where you can share it with someone, you'll be ready to *make Jesus known* right on the spot! We also plan to have these cards when we are out and about, at community events in the future, but they are available right now for anyone to pick up and give away!



Thank you  
all so much!



# Announcements



## Many Hands Make Light Work!!!

We are forming a committee to assist with setting up tables and chairs before church events and taking them down afterward. These gatherings—whether fellowship meals, celebrations, funerals, or special programs—don't just happen on their own. They require a bit of preparation and a team willing to step in and make the space welcoming and functional for everyone. We might also ask that members of this committee help with the setup of the gathering space for funerals.

Responsibilities include arranging tables and chairs according to event needs, ensuring spaces are safe and organized, and returning everything to its proper place once the event concludes. Many hands make light work, and with a committed group, the time and effort required from each person can remain manageable.

Volunteering for this committee is a great way to serve in a practical, meaningful way—especially for those who enjoy hands-on tasks or may prefer helping outside of the spotlight. It's also a wonderful opportunity to connect with others and contribute to the sense of community that makes our church feel like home.

If you're interested in joining or would like more information, please reach out to the church office. Your willingness to help makes a real difference, and we're grateful for every person who steps forward to serve.

Thank you for considering being part of this important ministry!



**The Ladies will gather for lunch** on Friday, May 22, at 11:30 a.m. This month, we'll be meeting at Te'kela in Perrysburg (25481 N. Dixie Hwy). Please sign up on the sheet at the kiosk so we can make reservations. All ladies are invited—feel free to bring a friend! If you have any questions, please contact Becky King at 419-349-7319.

## Did you know.....

### Christ in Our Home

April, May, June  
2020



Christ in Our Home, our daily devotional, is available to you in regular size and an easier-to-read large-print edition. Look for them in the gathering space at the beginning of each quarter. You can reserve a large-print copy for May-June-July by giving your name to Michelle in the office.

Many of our members and friends already use and appreciate them!

"The large print newsletter and Christ In Our Home help so much at my age to keep me up to date with the church goings on and the Bible readings. Thank You." Beekie

"I have very bad eyesight and need articles in large print. It is nice reading scripture and comments in Christ in Our Home. It refreshes the mind and soul of passages from the Bible that we haven't thought of for a while. I also look forward to the large print newsletter each month." Ruth Ann



# Announcements



## Spring Cleaning is in the Air!

First, we are going to have a **cleaning day** at **Salem Lutheran Church** on **Saturday, June 6<sup>th</sup>, from 10 a.m. to either 1 or 2 p.m.** If you would like to volunteer, there is a sign-up sheet at the kiosk. Dave Rockwell will be at the church on June 6<sup>th</sup> @ 9:30 a.m. to organize a caravan to Salem Lutheran Church. If you have any questions, call Kathy Heckler @ 270-763-7224 or Dave Rockwell @419-344-5083. Thanks in advance for considering.

Second, did you know that Salem Lutheran Church offers a **Free Store** to the community? They accept donations and community members; before picking up their meal on Tuesdays, they can shop in the Free Store. So, as you are doing your Spring Cleaning, please consider what you could donate to Salem's Free Store. These are items that they are seeking:

**Household items: \*\*\*gently used or like new\*\*\*** \*Shower curtains \*Window curtains \*Rugs \*Pots & pans \*Plates \*Bowls \*Cooking utensils \*Real spoons & forks (*for safety reasons - no knives*) \*Wall Décor \*Blankets/sheets/pillowcases \*Men/Women/Children clothing & shoes (all sizes) \*Men/Women/Children Coats & Hoodies \*Books for adults/children \*Book bags \*DVD movies

**Hygiene Items: \*\*\*New Items\*\*\*** \*Feminine pads/tampons \*Adult Depends \*Toilet paper \*Razors \*Deodorant \*Lotion \*Socks \*Band-Aids \*Tissues \*Dental floss \*Toothbrushes \*Toothpaste \*Small bottles of mouthwash \*Small first aid kits

**You can bring these donations to church on Sunday, June 28<sup>th</sup>, and place them in the library.**

The donations will then be transported to Salem Lutheran.

Blessings

**WELCOMING BASKETS**

**Lif**  
LIVING IN FAITH TOGETHER  
www.lifchurches.org

Bridge of Hope is preparing welcoming baskets for migrant families coming to work in the fields of Sandusky County every April. We are asking for donations to help make these possible.

**Dear Congregation,** Destinee from Bridge of Hope, Fremont, was extremely grateful for the winter donations. Currently, she is working on assembling Welcome Baskets for migrant families arriving to work the fields. **Destinee is desperate for work gloves.**

## Collections for Bridge of Hope for migrant workers will begin again!

Items that are needed are: \*empty egg cartons \*plastic laundry baskets \*detergent \*deodorant \*new pillows \*new or gently used pillowcases \*new or gently used towels & washcloths \*hats/neck covers \*bandanas \*socks \*thinner long sleeve shirts \*work clothes \*work gloves \*sunglasses \*reusable water bottles/jugs \*toothbrushes \*toothpaste \*bath wash/soap \*shampoo/conditioner \*sunscreen \*feminine hygiene products \*diapers/wipes \*paper towels \*toilet paper \*small cooler/lunch box

Please place any donations in the wicker basket in the hall off the Gathering space throughout spring, summer, and fall. Thank you! Monetary donations are always appreciated. Those can be made out to Bridge of Hope and sent to Hayes United Methodist Church, 1441 Fangboner Rd., Fremont, OH 43420.

# Preparing for Our RISEN Lord!



# Fellowship & Music



# Thank you, Friends, in Christ

**Thanks for Supporting the Salem/North-End Neighbors Baby Shower!** Social Action Committee is so thankful to all who generously supported our collection of items for the baby shower of gifts for new moms in the North End of Toledo through our partnership with Salem Lutheran Church. You have helped to bless the lives of several mothers and babies, and you have really made a difference in helping them to get set up with what they need for their little ones! Thank you to ALL who helped support this project in April!

Thank you for the continued love and support.  
I love the visits & the cards from Community of Christ;  
God Bless you all,  
Dorothy Petrell

Dear Community  
Thank you  
for the Easter  
gift. It was  
lovely and  
Thank you  
for remembering  
me!  
In Christ  
Cecil  
Newman

On behalf of everyone at the Anthony Wayne Food Pantry, thank you so much for your generous contribution. Your support allows us to continue to stock our shelves for the children, adults, and seniors of our community. Together the Lord is allowing us to help ensure that our neighbors have a little more food on the table, bringing hope and stability when they need it most. We truly value your partnership in fighting hunger in our community and we thank you again for your generosity and commitment to this mission. The Anthony Wayne Food Pantry Volunteers





# Our Littles!



A few photos from our Easter Egg Hunt Easter morning--big thanks to the folks who helped put this great event together, and to all the families who helped make it a great time!



# Loving Our Members & Neighbors!

Thanks to our willing hands at Conversations and More, who put together Easter baskets for our homebound members and folks connected to our Visitation Ministry! We appreciate your help!

31 baskets were delivered with warm appreciation from those who received them ❤️



Thanks to our folks who joined friends at Blue Creek Nursing Home for our monthly time of prayer and singing! And as always, thanks to our talented piano player, Cinda, for being our steady accompaniment!



# Loving Our Neighbors!

Thanks to your generosity and the generosity of other neighbors, our Kathy Heckler was able to bring another carload of items for migrant workers through the Bridge of Hope program out of Fremont! Thank you to all who continue to care for neighbors near and far—what a way to MAKE JESUS KNOWN!



Thank you, Dave Rockwell and Dean Nofzinger, for helping our neighbors at Salem Lutheran with their Tuesday dinners!



# STEWARDSHIP

*A Disciple's Way of Life*



Exciting news from our church! We are offering you more options to support our church's financial needs. Council and Finance Committee (as well as the Synod) have recommended the use of a new online, safe and secure tool to be able to give online electronically. The program is through the Tithe.ly company, used by many other churches and organizations. It has several options to be able to give as noted below:

- Your donations are recorded for your giving records and confidential to the financial secretary.
- When you donate, you designate the fund you would like your money to go toward, e.g., building loan, general, thank-you, or other.

-There are four methods to give:

1. On the church website - @ <https://tithe.ly/give?c=2746426>
2. Online (through the tithe.ly website, search for Community of Christ)
3. By text: simply text the word **give** to get started.  
**Community Of Christ Lutheran Church: (833) 985-2568**
4. Download the app and give.

2026 Building Loan Fund			
	Income	Expense	Diff.
Mar	\$16,390	\$12,563	\$3,827
YTD	\$42,740	\$39,689	\$3,051
2026 General Fund			
	Income	Expense	Diff.
Mar	\$44,965	\$39,831	\$5,133
YTD	\$122,994	\$125,412	(\$2,418)



Notes:

- The app and the web link allow you to input credit/debit card information. The text method will charge through your existing cell phone bill.
- There is a fee for this service for the convenience that it offers:
  - You can choose to cover this fee in addition to your donation, OR if you don't, the fee is deducted from the donation to the church.
  - This fee is a percentage typical of this type of service.

## SIMPLY GIVING PROGRAM

PLEASE REMEMBER ---we also offer an **electronic offering, (Simply Giving)** that will withdraw your offering automatically from your bank account. THANK YOU FOR GIVING TO THE LORD'S WORK AT COMMUNITY OF CHRIST AND THE ENTIRE CHURCH!

## Stewardship Committee Introduces "Community of Christ: In Focus" Video Series

The Stewardship Committee invites you to explore our new series of short videos, released monthly, that highlight various aspects of our ministry life here at Community of Christ. We're calling it *Community of Christ: In Focus*. Each video provides a deeper look into the many facets of our congregational life. You can watch the videos on our website by clicking on the "Community of Christ: In Focus" tab on the homepage or find them on our Facebook page and YouTube. Future videos will spotlight how our gifts of time, talent, and treasure support the work we do, giving you a clearer understanding of the many ways God is active in our community. We encourage you to check them out, share them with a friend, and discover how our shared resources are used for God's work in the world!

# Community of Christ Lutheran Church



Mike Abraham	05/01				
Carole Campbell	05/03	Dick Burdo	05/13	Carol Borkowski	05/24
Fred Shuman	05/04	Doug Deacon	05/14	David Prueter	05/24
Dick Rison	05/07	Richard Ludwig	05/14	Rick Yokum	05/24
Nikki Hartbarger	05/07	Peggy Hartbarger	05/15	Olivia Bucher	05/25
Cindy Myerholtz	05/10	Gregory Myers	05/16	Cynthia Matthews	05/26
Cynthia Hartbarger	05/10	Isla Dorton	05/16	Julie Holliker	05/26
Donald Warner Jr	05/10	Matthew Dick	05/18	Phyllis Sturgeon	05/26
Timothy Borkowski	05/10	Kersten Pitchford	05/19	Amy Cedargren	05/28
Julie Swartz	05/11	Joel Reid	05/20	Cheryl Fischer	05/28
Sidney Smigelski	05/11	Landon Stewart	05/20	Gordon Rhoades	05/28
Andy Pollock	05/12	Susan Raymond	05/20	Kyle Bucher	05/28
Hailey Reid	05/12	Cindy Nutter	05/21	Marty Kronmann	05/31
Reese Ruhe	05/12	Debbie Grimes	05/21	Tom Jennings	05/31
Zoe Reid	05/12				

Have you seen our new lamp post banners outside the church? Thanks to our Jeff Baden for creating these, offering a word of welcome to all who come by, and inviting them to join us in making Jesus known!



Like us on Facebook

Community of Christ Lutheran Church

**Church Office Hours**  
8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.  
(Monday through Friday)

**419-877-0607**

[secretary@commofchrist.org](mailto:secretary@commofchrist.org)

[www.commofchrist.org](http://www.commofchrist.org)

6517 Finzel Rd, Whitehouse, OH 43571