Christ Lutheran Church
All Are Welcome, no really!

5987 Williams Lake Rd
Waterford, MI 48329

All are welcome…

…no really!

SUNDAY WORSHIP
10AM

OFFICE HOURS
Monday—Thursday
9:00am to 2:00pm

PHONE
248-673-7331

CHURCH EMAIL:
office@christwaterford.org

WEBSITE:
www.christwaterford.org

WATCH ONLINE
https://christwaterford.org/online-worship/

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK!
www.facebook.com/
ChristutheranWaterford

INSTAGRAM

@christlutheranwaterford

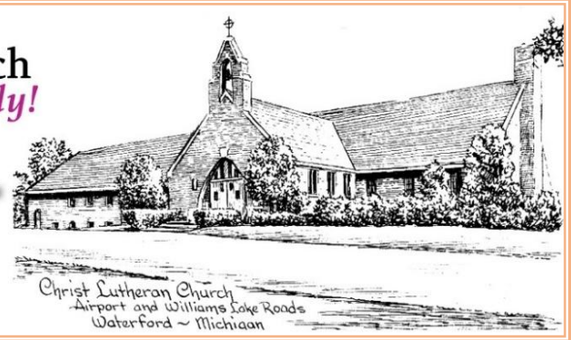


Christ Lutheran Church
All Are Welcome, no really!

Parish Caller

CLC's Monthly Newsletter

November 2026



There's Always Room at the Table

A Thanksgiving Message from Pastor Steph

"Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you." — 1 Thessalonians 5:18

Dear Beloved Church,

There is something wonderful about Thanksgiving, isn't there?

The familiar smells coming from the kitchen. The anticipation of gathering with people we love. The laughter, the stories, the passing of dishes, and perhaps that one family member who insists on bringing the same questionable casserole every single year!

But underneath all the traditions, Thanksgiving invites us into something deeply sacred. It invites us to pause, recognize the blessings we so often overlook, and give thanks for the extraordinary gifts God has placed in our lives.

And so often, we do that around a table.

As we continue our congregational journey through this year's theme, **FINALLY HOME: A Place to Breathe. A Place to Belong**, I've been thinking about the significance of the table.

Because when we think about home, we often think about gathering around one. A place where stories are shared, laughter is contagious, tears are sometimes shed, and breaking bread reminds us that we belong to one another.

But tables also raise some important questions.

Who gets invited? Who gets a seat? Who decides who belongs? And are we willing to make room for one more?

For Christians, these aren't simply questions about hospitality. They are questions about the very heart of the Gospel.

Cont. pg.2

Pastor Stephanie Newman
pastorsteph@christwaterford.org

Secretary Edelyn Rose
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Treasurer Lisa Kargol-Stephens
treasurer@christwaterford.org

Bookkeeper Karen Hillestad

Custodian Dave Kane

Music Ministers John Joanette
music@christwaterford.org

Church Council

President: Charlie Moritz

Vice President: Scott Fahr

Administrative
Charlie Moritz
Children & Youth
Kathy Reddeman
Community & Cong. Life
Julia Hanneman-Schoenbach
Communications
Edelyn Rose
Education
Stephen Cooperrider
Finance
Lisa Kargol-Stephens
Property
Kate Smith
Worship and Music
Cindy Edwards

Cont. from pg. 1

Because when we look at Jesus, we discover a Savior who was forever making room at the table. Jesus ate with tax collectors and sinners. He welcomed people others had pushed aside. He crossed boundaries and challenged expectations about who belonged.

And on the night before his death, Jesus gathered his disciples around a table, took bread, gave thanks, broke it, and shared it with them.

Knowing what lay ahead...knowing the suffering and betrayal that awaited him... **Jesus gave thanks.**

And through that bread and cup, Christ continues to meet us at a table where grace is freely given, forgiveness is proclaimed, and belonging is not something we have to earn.

We come not because we have everything figured out, but because Christ invites us....and here is the best news of all:

There is room for us ALL.

As I reflect on this season of gratitude, I want you to know just how thankful I am for **Christ Lutheran Church**.

I am grateful for the ways God is moving among us. For the growth we are experiencing, not simply in attendance, but in the relationships being formed, the faith being deepened, and the lives being touched by the love of Jesus Christ

Cont.pg. 3

In Our Prayers

Members lifted in prayer, Cindy Edwards, Jane Madsen, Karen Kush, Barb Harris, Paula Corrin, Jack Negele, Jamie Schutt, Carol Segal, Scott Fahr, Robin Hansen, Steve Fante, Christopher Nestor, Michael See, June Swain.
Our Armed Service and support personnel: Aaron Butora; Cole Nichols (Fred & Jill Jones), Kurtis Barney (Terry Young), Logan Head (Lisa Head).



November Birthdays

11/1	Fred Jones	11/2	Scott Regentin
11/4	Joan Dort	11/5	Maryellen McKnight
11/6	Jill Jacobson	11/12	Kerri Kinneberg
11/15	Kris Goetze	11/19	Rita Zettel
11/21	Emmet Morse	11/24	Nicole Middleton
11/24	Evelyn McGran	11/27	Anne Anderson
11/29	Don Scott	11/30	Mary Bratun

November Wedding Anniversaries

11/18 Diane & Don Harris

INTERNATIONAL DINNER





Dear Christ Lutheran Family,

Thank you so much for the beautiful Pastor Appreciation card and generous gift! Your thoughtfulness and kindness mean more to me than you know.

It is truly a blessing to serve as your pastor. I am grateful not only for your generosity, but for the love, encouragement, laughter, and faith we share as a congregation. I see God moving among us in so many wonderful ways, and it is a joy and a privilege to be part of this journey with you.

Thank you for making Christ Lutheran such a special place to call home. I love you all, and I look forward to all that God has in store for us!

With love and gratitude,

Pastor Steph

TRUNK OR TREAT FUN!!!















Cont. from pg. 2

I am grateful for the faithfulness of those who have loved and served this congregation for generations, whose prayers and dedication helped bring us to this moment. And I am grateful for the new faces, new friendships, new ideas, and new energy becoming part of our story.

I am grateful for the quiet acts of service, the generosity that often goes unseen, the laughter that fills our fellowship hall, and the ways this congregation continues to show up for one another and our neighbors.

And yes, **I'm even grateful for the growing pains that remind us God is not finished with us yet!**

Because growth isn't always comfortable. Sometimes it stretches us, challenges our assumptions, and asks us to move over a little, pull up another chair, and discover that the table is bigger than we imagined.

But isn't that wonderful?

The Holy Spirit is still at work among us! God is still opening doors, stirring hearts, and inviting us to become something more than we were yesterday. What a gift to be part of that holy work!

One beautiful way we will live out that calling is through our **fourth annual "Friendsgiving," on Wednesday, November 25, 2026, from 5:00–7:30 PM.**

Once again, we will offer a Thanksgiving meal to our community, welcoming neighbors, friends, families, and anyone who would appreciate a place at the table.

We aren't simply serving turkey and mashed potatoes. We are sharing God's abundance, extending hospitality, building relationships, and reminding people that they are loved and that they matter.

We are saying, **"You belong here."**

Of course, a table this big takes many hands and generous hearts!

Please sign up online or in the Narthex to provide a dish or donate a turkey for our "Friendsgiving" meal. Every contribution helps us share a wonderful Thanksgiving dinner with our community. Whether you cook, prepare, serve, or offer a warm welcome, you are helping us live out the Gospel.

Dear ones, gratitude isn't simply recognizing what we have received. It is allowing those blessings to move through us and become blessings for someone else.

The apostle Paul reminds us to give thanks *in* all circumstances. Not necessarily *for* every circumstance. There is a difference. Life brings losses, uncertainties, and changes we would never choose. *Cont. pg. 4*

Cont. from page3

Christian gratitude doesn't mean pretending everything is wonderful. It means trusting that even in difficult seasons, God is present, grace is at work, and we are not alone.

And sometimes, even the growing pains become reasons for thanksgiving. They remind us that we are learning, being stretched, and being shaped into the community God calls us to be.

So this Thanksgiving, I encourage you to practice gratitude intentionally. Give thanks for the people who have helped shape your life. For the blessings you may have stopped noticing. For the opportunities to begin again. And for the ways God is working, even when you cannot yet see where the road is leading.

And as you gather around your Thanksgiving table, perhaps ask yourself one more question:

Who might God be inviting me to make room for?

Because Christ's table is not a place where we guard the seats.

It is a place where we pull up another chair.

Thank you, Christ Lutheran, for your faithfulness, your generosity, your love, and your willingness to keep growing and welcoming others together. I am profoundly grateful to be your pastor, and I cannot wait to see what God has in store for us next.

May our hearts be filled with thanksgiving, our tables with welcome, and our lives with the joy of knowing that we belong to a God whose grace never runs out.

Finally home. A place to breathe. A place to belong. And always, always, room for one more.

With love and thanksgiving,

Pastor Steph





WORSHIP SERVANTS-NOVEMBER

If you cannot be there on your scheduled day, please switch with someone or find a substitute and let the church office know of the change.

Lay Assistants

11/1 – Mike Mitchell

11/8 – Julia Hanneman-Schoenbach

11/15 – Donna Butora

11/22 – Kate Smith

11/29 – Edelyn Rose

Ushers

11/1 – Gerry Cleasby, Julie Zarenba, Sharon Morse, Jacen Schnitzer

11/8 – Ron Goetze, Kris Goetze Todd Cooper, Cathy Roller

11/15 – Jim Austin, Vicki Hill Norm Kinnison, Anna Findley

11/22 - Jill Jones, Elisabete Nestor Hanne Forbing, Riane Forbing

11/29 Gerry Cleasby, Emmet Morse Cathy Roller, Jacen Schnitzer

Counters for November

Dale Folsom - Head Counter
Jacki Urbaniak
Karen Hillestad

Altar Team for November

Krystal Edwards, Cindy Edwards
Kate Smith, Kerri Kinneberg

Greeters

11/1 – Jill Jacobson, Jill Jones Ruth Korhonen, Elizabeth Nestor

11/8 - Linda Jensen, Linda Martin Mary Catherine Gadany, Karen Hillestad

11/15 – Elisabete Nestor, Vicki Hill Julie Zaremba, Sherri Rivard-Baker

11/22 – Mary Catherine Gadany Karen Hillestad, Cindy Edwards Jill Jacobson

11/29 Anna Findley, Jill Jones Hanna & Riane Forbing

Coffee Hour

11/1 – CLC

11/8 – Council Team #1
Charlie Moritz
Edelyn Westwood
Stephen Cooperrider
Kathy Reddeman

11/15– WELCA
Kris Goetze – Chair

11/22 – Men's Group

11/29 – WELCA
5th Sunday



WORSHIP SERVANTS-N NOVEMBER

Tech Team

11/1
Switcher: Edelyn Rose
Projection: Krystal Edwards
Sound Up: Charlie Moritz
Cameras: Andy Nestor
Julia Hanneman-Schoenbach

11/8
Switcher: Krystal Edwards
Projection: Tara Ondusky
Sound Up: Charlie Moritz
Cameras: Tracey Barney
(Keenan Lynch-training)
Emmet Morse

11/15
Switcher: Brent Gobler
Projection: Edelyn Rose
Sound Up: Charlie Moritz
Cameras: Keenan Lynch
Christopher Nestor

11/22
Switcher: Krystal Edwards
Projection: Tara Ondusky
Sound Up: Charlie Moritz
Cameras: Tracey Barney
(Terry Chisholm-training)
Emmet Morse

11/29
Switcher: Edelyn Rose
Projection: Tara Ondusky
Sound Up: Charlie Moritz
Cameras: Krystal Edwards
Terry Chisholm

Communion Assistants

11/1 - Karen Hillestad
Mary Bratun, Vicki Hill

11/8 – Stephen Cooperrider
Paula Corrin, Karen Hillestad

11/15 – Donna Butora, Phyllis Folsom
Joan Kossman

11/22 – Stephen Cooperrider
Linda Greiser, Vicki Hill

11/29- Linda Jensen, Cindy Edwards,
Ryan Christensen



Friendsgiving: There's Room at the Table!

It's that time of year again when we open our doors, set the table, and share the love of Christ with our community! Our **4th Annual Friendsgiving Dinner** is Wednesday, November 25. Doors open at 5pm, Dinner is served 5:30-730pm, and we need ***YOUR*** help! We're looking for cooks, servers, volunteers, and plenty of smiling faces to help make this special evening possible. **Sign up online or contact the church office** to find out what's needed. Together, let's make sure everyone has a place at the table and no one eats alone!

A New Voice in the Newsletter: Notes from the Office and the Classroom

Hello, church family,

Starting this month, I'll be writing a short column in our newsletter. I wanted to take a moment and tell you what to expect.

As most of you know, I serve as the office administrator here at Christ Lutheran. If you've called the church, stopped by during the week, or needed something from the office, chances are we've already met. It's a joy to be the person who answers the phone and opens the door, the small, daily work of keeping our church running so that ministry can happen.

At the same time, I'm also a seminary student. That means my weeks are split between two worlds that, it turns out, are not so far apart: the practical work of the church office and the study of Scripture, theology, and the Lutheran tradition. On any given day I might be printing bulletins in the morning and wrestling with a passage of Paul in the afternoon.

That overlap is what I'd like to write about. Each month I'll share a short reflection, something I'm learning in seminary, an insight from Scripture, or a thought that's been shaped by both the classroom and the everyday life of our congregation. My hope is simple: that these few paragraphs might encourage you, give you something to carry into your week, and maybe open a window into the kind of formation that happens when faith meets study.

I don't write as a pastor, and I don't write as a scholar. I write as someone in between, learning, serving, and grateful to be doing both alongside all of you.

If something I share raises a question or sparks a thought, please tell me. I'd love to hear from you.

Grace and peace,

Edelyn Grace Rose





NOVEMBER 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 10am Service	2 7pm Grief & Loss Support Group 7pm Scouts	3 7pmComm. & Cong. Life Meeting	4 1pm Bible Study 6pm SCSA 7:00pm Emmaus 8pm AA	5 9am Quilting Group 11am Yoga TOPS 5-6PM	6	7 8pm AA
8 10am Service WELCA Meeting After service	9 7pm Scouts	10	11 **Veterans Day** 1pm Bible Study 7:00pm Emmaus 8pm AA	12 9am Quilting Group 11am Yoga TOPS 5-6PM	13	14 8pm AA
15 10am Service Noisy Offering- Fueling Kids Futures	16 6:45pm ALS Support Group 7pm Council Meeting 7pm Scouts	17 7pm MS Support Group	18 1pm Bible Study 6pm SCSA 7:00pm Emmaus 8pm AA	19 9am Quilting Group 11am Yoga TOPS 5-6PM	20	21 8pm AA
22 10am Service WELCA Bake Sale & Craft Show	23 6:30 Men's Food & Fellowship 7pm Scouts	24	25 **Friendsgiving 5:30pm**	26 thanksgiving	27	28 10am Hanging of the Greens 8pm AA
29 10am Service	30 7pm Scouts	1 DECEMBER	2	3 9am Quilting Group 11am Yoga TOPS 5-6PM	4	5 8pm AA