



Christ Lutheran CHURCH

WEEKLY SCRIBE
May 3, 2026

Faith Formation Opportunities ~ *Sundays 9:20 a.m.*

	Church Hall	Sanctuary	120 Library
5/3/2026	Great Cloud of Witnesses: Stories of Faith and Resilience	Livestream Training	Bible Survey D. Keammerer
5/10/2026	Great Cloud of Witnesses: Stories of Faith and Resilience	Getting to Know CLC Pastor Tim Knauff	
5/17/2026	Great Cloud of Witnesses: Stories of Faith and Resilience Charollette Hawkins History of Juneteenth	Getting to Know CLC Council	
5/24/2026		8:20 a.m. Getting to Know CLC	
5/31/2026	Quilt Tying Kathy Stefans		

Great Cloud of Witnesses: Stories of Faith and Resilience will continue to address the importance of listening to the stories of those from the margins who have much to teach about faith and resilience.

May 3

This week we will listen to and discuss the video by Kaitlin Curtice from the “Why Christian?” (2018) conference which gathered together pastors, practitioners, artists, dreamers, and doubters around one question: Why Christian?

Kaitlin Curtice is a Native American Christian author and speaker. As an enrolled member of the Potawatomi Citizen Band and someone who has grown up in the Christian faith, Kaitlin writes on the intersection of Indigenous spirituality, faith in everyday life, and the church.



Christ Lutheran CHURCH

Quarterly Statements

THANK YOU for your commitment to the ministries of Christ Lutheran Church! Your gifts of time, talents, and funds send the heart and hands of Christ to our local community and our siblings all over the world. We have been busy! During the past few months, Christ Lutheran:

- Installed our 2026 church council and began dreaming about where God might be leading our congregation in the coming year;
- Explored living as a Christian when the ground feels shaky at our annual church retreat;
- Learned to be “Anchored” at Quake, a weekend event attended by our middle and high school youth;
- Enjoyed fellowship with each other at our Lenten dinners;
- Contemplated “Wisdom of the Desert Elders” at our mid-week services during Lent;
- Hosted our preschool’s annual Art Show fundraiser and silent auction, raising \$8,647 to support the operations of Little Lamb;
- Received a \$20,000 grant from Early Learning Indiana to help fund staff development and classroom materials;
- Finished renovating our tech closet and unused closet space into a new office, which allows our Director of Youth Ministries to have a space closer to the staff offices;
- Finished renovating the old youth room into a dedicated space for our handbell choir;
- Sent four of our Celebration Ringers to a handbell festival in Muncie, where they learned new music, new techniques, and developed their skills in the art of handbell ringing;
- Raised \$579,958 in generosity through our “Dare to Disciple” stewardship campaign, which supports the operating budget and allows us to continue serving our neighbors all over the world;
- Continued to support our friends from Venezuela as they adjust to their new home in the United States;
- Provided meeting and event space for Girl Scouts, Alcoholics Anonymous, Gamblers Anonymous, Grief Group, and Stephen Ministries;
- Continued our commitment to nurture our faith through Sunday School, education hour classes, confirmation, Fusion, Circle, book groups, and Bible studies;
- Repaid \$2,850 borrowed from our restricted funds;
- Shared \$11,500 with the Indiana-Kentucky Synod to support the ministries of the ELCA beyond our congregation;
- Raised \$8,940 to share with the ministries of First Contact, Hilltop House, Lutheran Diaconal Association, and our own Refugee Family Support Fund and Steiner Fund.

YOUR GIFTS to our ministry allow these things to happen - THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!!!!

Please check your email for your first-quarter giving statement. Statements were sent electronically on Wednesday, April 22; look for an email from Subsplash Giving (noreply@secure.subsplash.com). If you do not receive your statements electronically and would like a paper copy, please call the church office or email our Business Manager, Heather Budnik (heather.budnik@clcvalpo.org). Thank you for being an important part of changing lives through the work of Christ Lutheran Church!

CLC Social Ministry and Mission
May 2026



- Each month the Social Ministry Committee highlights a special giving opportunity. May's emphasis is providing support for **Reconciling in Christ** www.reconcilingworks.org/ric and **LGBTQ Outreach of Porter County** www.lgbtqofpc.org
- **Reconciling in Christ (RIC)**. After the three-year process of Deepening Our Welcome, Christ Lutheran became a Partner Organization in the Reconciling in Christ program (2024). RIC is a holy ministry of welcome, inclusion, celebration, and advocacy. RIC's believes that God values and embraces each person as a child of God, the Spirit gives a diversity of gifts for the common good, and Jesus calls us to work for justice. As a RIC member congregation, we have the opportunity to support RIC in its work to bring more congregations into the "Lutherans for Full Participation" ministry.
- **LGBTQ Outreach of Porter County**. LGBTQ Outreach promotes an affirming community to LGBTQ+ youth and adults, through empowerment, advocacy, opportunity, and support. The vision is to have a community (including churches) that affirms that people's differences are seen as also our strengths. LGBTQ Outreach serves community and allies by providing opportunities for employment, conversation, and connections, and education for the broader community. LGBTQ Outreach is participating in/helping sponsor a NWI PrideFest the weekend of June 6 -7 at Sunset Hill Farm.
- Help achieve our goal of \$2500 in May (over and above giving combined with CLC's budgeted amount of \$1200). Use your weekly worship giving envelope mailed with check to CLC and indicate "RIC/LGBTQ Outreach" or contribute through SubSplash on the CLC website <https://clcvalpo.org> via the "Give" button and choose Monthly Social Ministry Emphasis. Thank you to members for supporting monthly social ministry emphases.

Christ Lutheran Church offers a Grief Support Group every other week on Wednesdays from 9:30 - 11 am in the Conference Room. (209). The group serves adults who have experienced a loss of a spouse, parent, child, friend, or neighbor. The core group of peer support welcomes others to walk together in our grief journey .

Come when you can. Coffee and Kleenex available.

The group is facilitated by Cheryl Slack, a Stephen Minister. You may contact her at 219-241-0677 or one of the pastors if you have any questions.

Upcoming dates are May 6, 20; June 3, 17.

Sheltered in Grace: A Special Giving Appeal

Something remarkable is already happening. Since we launched *Sheltered in Grace* at our meeting last week, **\$57,765 has already been committed** — nearly halfway to our Foundation Goal of \$120,000 for the sanctuary roof. Our Council and Property Committee gave first, and our congregation has been responding. There is real momentum here, and we are aiming higher.

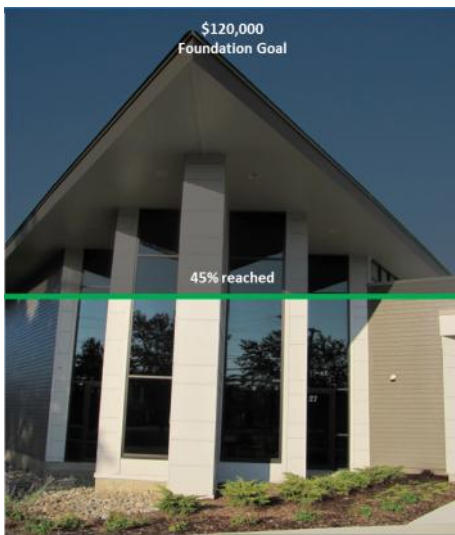


Our goal isn't just to fix the roof — it's to reach the **Hallelujah Goal of \$250,000+**, where every dollar beyond the actual roof cost goes directly to our mortgage principal. When we reduce that principal, we can request a reamortization: our lender recalculates our payments at the same rate on the lower balance. Lower payments. Less interest. Real budget relief that frees resources for ministry for years to come.

The roof is the occasion. Strengthening our financial footing is the opportunity.

Our goals:

- **Foundation Goal — \$120,000:** Sanctuary roof replacement
- **Hallelujah Goal — \$250,000+:** Roof + mortgage principal reduction



We are asking every household to prayerfully consider a gift over and above regular giving.

Commitment date: June 1 // Gifts received through: August 1

Make your commitment at clcvalpo.org/shelteredingrace, or return the enclosed commitment card. Interested in giving appreciated securities, a tax refund, or an IRA charitable rollover? Check the box on the card and Heather Budnik will be in touch.

What we built together is worth protecting — and worth investing in.

House Cleaning Service



Busy work week? No time to clean?
Overwhelmed with catching up?
We can help!

Our Services

- Vacuum, Dust, & Mop
- General Tidying
- Kitchen Counters, Sink, etc.
- Bathrooms
- Bedrooms & Living Areas
- **1st Visit:** In-person to provide estimate.
- **2nd Visit:** Scheduled cleaning date.

SCHEDULE TODAY!

Text: 219.309.5499
luzemeri23@gmail.com

May Altar Gifts

Holy Communion Vickie and Gregg Copeland ~ In Honor of Family

Altar Candles Phil Hahn ~ in Memory of Laurel Hahn

Eternal Lamp Given to the Glory of God



Our friends at Bethel Lutheran Church have invited folks at CLC to a workday to clean up the Bethel Cemetery and help restore a beautiful space that is somewhat overgrown back into a lovely sacred place. Anyone with a willing heart and with or without gardening skills is encouraged to come. Please join us on **Saturday, May 16th at 9am – 1pm**. Lunch is included. Please plan to wear gloves, long pants, a long-sleeved shirt and sturdy shoes as there is poison ivy on the site.

Sign up in the Gathering Space. If you have any questions, please contact Kathy Sutherland (sutherland54@yahoo.com or 219-309-4414) or Tim Sutherland (sutherla@iu.edu or 219-309-4413)

Getting to Know CLC

Curious how God changes lives in and with this congregation? Join us to for our “Getting to Know CLC” series as we explore Christ Lutheran's ministry, history, and teaching. We'll gather for a 3-week series during the Formation Hour on Sundays (9:20am-10:20) **May 10, 17 and 24 (Note: the 24th is at 8:20)** in the Sanctuary, followed by an opportunity to formally stand with the congregation, confess our faith together, and declare that "Yes! God has something for me here."

**New Member Welcome on Sunday, May 24
during 9:30 service**

LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF PROJECTS

QUILTS

Quilts Completed: 153



BABY CARE KIT PROJECT

2026 GOAL-500

Kits completed-230

MAY NEEDS ARE outerwear such as sweaters, jackets, and sweat shirts. Also, dark colored lightweight hand towels.

INTERESTING FACT- This project was once known as the LWR Layette Project.

FABRIC KIT PROJECT

2026 GOAL-100

Kits completed-24

MAY NEEDS ARE FLANNEL PIECES in 1 yard or more lengths and 3 yards of cotton fabric for sewing clothing.

INTERESTING FACT-Fabric goes to LWR SEWING CENTERS around the world where fabric is sewn on treadle sewing machine. **ELECTRICITY IS NOT AVAILABLE.**

PERSONAL CARE KITS

Kits completed—240

MAY NEEDS-CONTINUE TO BE CASH TO PURCHASE ITEMS.

INTERESTING FACT—Our Lenten appeal netted \$1160. That is enough to purchase all the items needed for nearly 200 kits. Thanks to everyone.

ALUMINUM CAN PROJECT

2026 GOAL-\$250.00

April Delivery -\$60.00

MAY NEEDS- all the cans we can get. Ask family and friends to save their cans for us. The money goes to buy SOAP for LWR PROJECTS.

INTERESTING FACT- Currently, aluminum cans are 60 cents a pound. That is a new high. Bring those cans in!

SHOULD THE RED TRUCK NOT BE THERE, PUT THE CANS BY THE WHITE BASKET IN THE GATHERING AREA.

We Make Indiana Training: one-on-one relationship building



Join others from Christ Lutheran Church and our other We Make Indiana congregations as we work on building relationships based on empowerment and community activism which is the power that creates real change.

In this training, you'll learn:

- How to lead effective 1:1 conversations
- Tools for listen deeply to others, especially across differences
- How to share your own story in a way that connects values to action

**Saturday, May 9
10:00 - 12:00 CT
Christ Lutheran Church
Church Hall**

SIGN UP with QR Code below. Questions? Please reach out to Jennie Brock jbrock@standrewsvalpo.org



T-Bone Latino Octet

Concert

Wednesday

May 13th

7:00 p.m.

Support this musical ensemble as they prepare to travel to the International Trombone Festival in Riga, Latvia!

Christ Lutheran Church
2610 N. Campbell Street
Valparaiso
(Enter Door #20, East side)

Suggested cash
donation at the door:
\$10 per person

FOR MORE INFO:

<https://gofund.me/3dd71fde0>



Christ Lutheran Church Endowment Fund Applications Are Now Available!

Since January of 2025, CLC's Endowment fund has grown! Thanks to the generosity of our congregational members through thoughtful living gifts, as well as planned gifts from estates and wills as their faithful stewardship of life assets.

Now the interest accrued on the principle of these *tithes of perpetuity* has also increased each quarter, thanks be to God! These designated funds (Interest earnings only) **are now available** for ministry projects to support mission work by CLC members.

The CLC Endowment committee is (for the first time) extending the invitation to our congregation to apply for funds for local, regional or national projects that extend the ministry of Christ Lutheran Church beyond the scope of the annual operating budget. The **TIMELINE** for APPLICATION is May 1st through July 1st, 2026.



Click the QR code for information on the grants and directions how to apply for endowment funding. It is exciting to see the generosity of our congregation multiply!

May The Lord continue to Bless CLC and our work, Amen.

Grace Safrin – CLC Endowment chair for 2026.

Questions after reviewing the attached info? Please contact me or Pastor Tim

Attention: YOUTH

If there are youth in grades 6-11 interested in attending Lutherwald (June 14-19), please let me know! karina.barlow@clcvalpo.org.

I need to start the registration process soon!

CLC Endowment Fund Corner

Endowment Funds ending balance as of 3/31/2026 = \$165,347.55.

The account balance is reflective of the market value as of 3/31/2026. The balance remains invested and is subject to market fluctuations.

Initial investment as of 1/25/2025 = \$135,034.53.

Additional deposit made in November 2025 of \$10,000.

Thank you.

The Endowment Committee

Valpo Parks wants you to see what Banta has to offer, free of charge!

Banta Center

SENIOR ENRICHMENT

OPEN HOUSE

Friday, May 8th, 9 am - 3 pm

Banta Activity Center
605 Beech Street, Valparaiso, IN 46383

9am Bingo • 11:30am Informational Luncheon • 12:30pm Games



A vibrant community space welcomes individuals aged 50 and up, promoting connections, well-being, and lifelong learning.



We invite you to join us to explore the space, meet our staff, and experience a few of our programs firsthand. It's a relaxed, no-pressure way to see what we offer, ask questions, and discover how Banta Center can be a place to connect, stay active, and enjoy time with others in the community.

DONATE TO A NON-PROFIT

Partial wish list for the ceramic studio at the ART BARN

- Aqua Net Hairspray
- Shelf Brackets
- Rubber Mallets
- Small Dolley's (for 5gallon buckets)
- Dry Cleaner Plastic bags
- Strong Plastic bags (no holes, these are used to cover wet clay pieces, until next stage is needed)

Please bring donations to the church office. Thank you in advance.

Questions: Contact Art Barn 219-462-9009



Communion Conversations for Children and Families

It's time for our annual Communion Conversations - the chance for our young people to learn more about the sacrament. If you have a child who is ready to receive communion, or a child who is already receiving and is now old enough to join us to learn more (late preschool on up), please shoot me an email at pastorerica@clcvalpo.org so that we can find a good time for everyone! (We usually try for a Saturday morning from 9-10:15am.)

Bible Basics for Third Graders and their families - Our tradition at Christ Lutheran is to help families mark their growth in faith and in reading skills with a Bible of the child's own, and a chance to stop and learn together about the Bible and how it brings God's living words of love to us. Our Bible Basics class for 3rd graders and families will be on May 3.

BUDGET UPDATE

In response to the budget meeting question about Pastor Erica's compensation, please note that the numbers for *fiscal year 2024-2025 are not correct*. The housing allowance presented was carried over from a prior year, but it should have been changed to the current number. The numbers for 2025-2026 and the proposed numbers for 2026-2027 are correct, and there are no changes needed to the budget passed at the meeting.

Senior Outing

May 28, 2026
11:00 a.m.

The American Factory by Journeyman Distillery, Valparaiso

Tour
Lunch TBD

\$15.00 per person

More information contact
Cheryl Watson at
watsoncheryl877@gmail.com
219-929-4253

