

THE VISITOR



Left to right: Jack Biddle, Tucker Holderman, Casey Maag, and classmates enjoy outside time at preschool this past spring.

COME CELEBRATE CHRIST CHURCH PRESCHOOL!

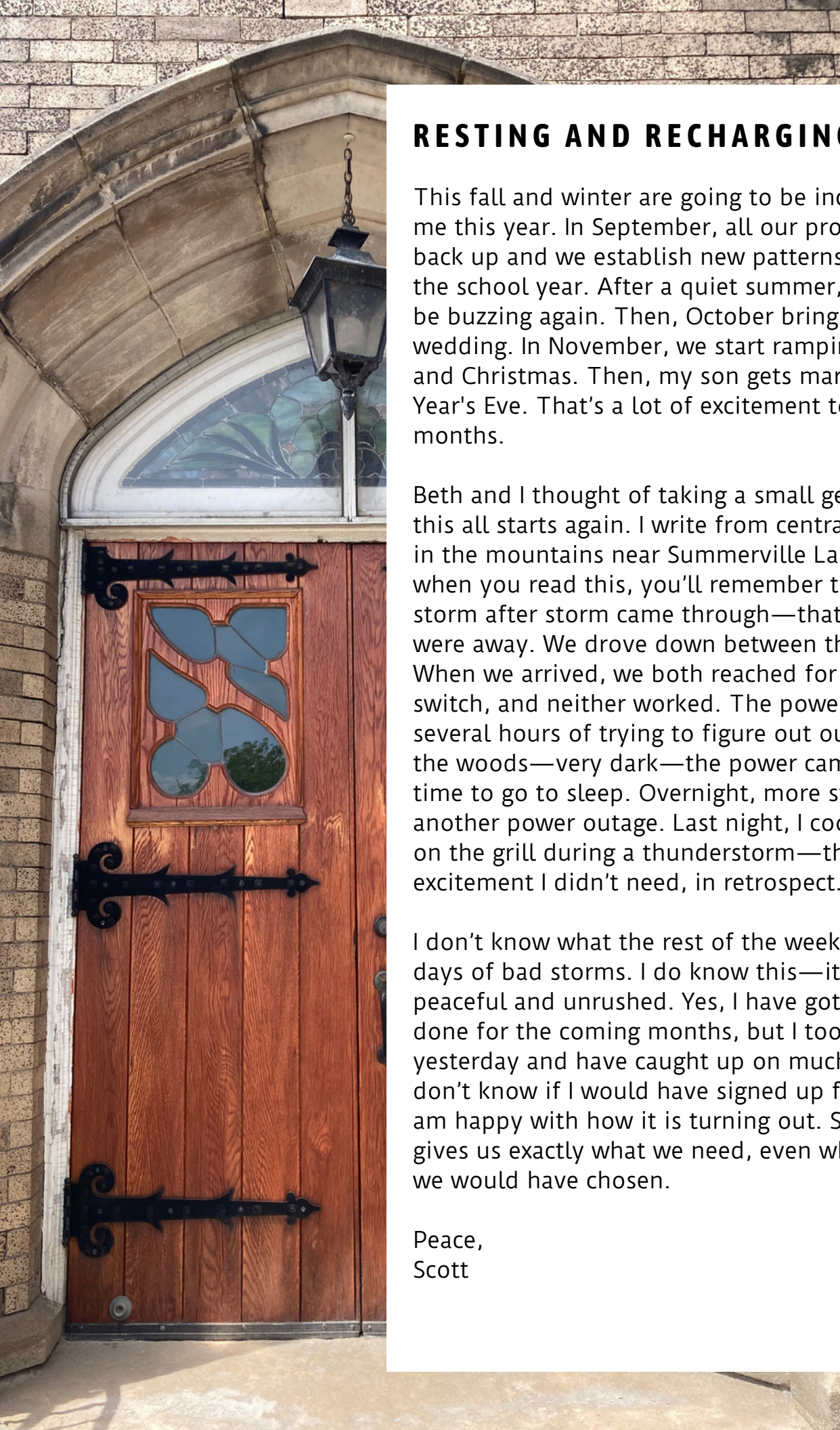
Join us for lunch after worship on Sunday, September 20 as we celebrate and support Christ Church Preschool! We'll have a hot dog and mac & cheese bar, along with salad and desserts. The meal is by donation, with all proceeds helping keep our preschool program running and thriving.

While you enjoy lunch, take a walk down memory lane! We'll have preschool photos on display from years past, all the way back to the preschool's first year of operation more than 35 years ago. It will be a fun chance to see how our preschool has grown and changed through the years.

You'll also have the opportunity to meet our preschool teachers and learn more about the wonderful work they do with our youngest learners. We hope you'll join us for good food, good memories, and a great cause!

THIS MONTH AT A GLANCE:

- 9/5** Ladies of Light
- 9/6** No Kids/Youth Sunday School
- 9/7** Office Closed - Labor Day
- 9/13** Church Golf Outing
- 9/20** Preschool Fundraiser
Confirmation Begins
Youth Fellowship Kick-Off
- 9/30** Kids Club Begins
Carol Choir Begins



RESTING AND RECHARGING

This fall and winter are going to be incredibly busy for me this year. In September, all our programming ramps back up and we establish new patterns and routines for the school year. After a quiet summer, the building will be buzzing again. Then, October brings my daughter's wedding. In November, we start ramping up for Advent and Christmas. Then, my son gets married on New Year's Eve. That's a lot of excitement to pack in a few months.

Beth and I thought of taking a small getaway before this all starts again. I write from central West Virginia, in the mountains near Summerville Lake. For reference, when you read this, you'll remember the week where storm after storm came through—that's the week we were away. We drove down between thunderstorms. When we arrived, we both reached for a different light switch, and neither worked. The power was out. After several hours of trying to figure out our rental house in the woods—very dark—the power came on, just in time to go to sleep. Overnight, more storms and another power outage. Last night, I cooked our dinner on the grill during a thunderstorm—that was excitement I didn't need, in retrospect.

I don't know what the rest of the week holds after two days of bad storms. I do know this—it has been totally peaceful and unrushed. Yes, I have gotten some work done for the coming months, but I took a deserved nap yesterday and have caught up on much needed sleep. I don't know if I would have signed up for this trip, but I am happy with how it is turning out. Sometimes, God gives us exactly what we need, even when it's not what we would have chosen.

Peace,
Scott



CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING SUMMARY FROM AUGUST 19, 2026

Spiritual Reflection given by Rev. Schieber based on the parable of The Talents from Matthew. We need to lean into active stewardship.

Treasurer's Report is on file.

Pastor and staff reports are on file.

Rev. Scott is considering time with folks in a coffee or bar establishment as an outreach in the community. He would market himself. It is not designed as an evangelical tool to draw people to Christ Church.

Office hours during the school year will be 8:30 – 12:30, Monday – Friday.

Altar flower care - Wendy Ensor and Jeff Kilgore, with Lisa Biddle assisting and Linda Combs helping on special occasions (Christmas, Easter).

The CPR class is full!

Lisa Yeagley will promote the Thanksgiving food drive. Mollie Curie will promote the Angel Tree. Memory Café draws 12-16 people each week.

The office furniture is installed. New AC units will be installed soon. The work room cabinets have been ordered and should arrive in 3-4 weeks. The new boiler has been ordered. Sensory room window work has begun. The carpet edges in the room are a concern and being evaluated. Flooding – the line was snaked, but the pipes are old and will have to be replaced. The kitchen grease trap needs to be replaced but currently is working. Second floor men's room fixture issues will be addressed.

Sarah Finney has been hired as the Carol Choir director.

Kaylene submitted information concerning Bibles that are available for various age groups.

Staffing proposal changes - Lisa remains as youth coordinator (20 hours) and adds office administrator (16 hours).

Next meeting is September 8, 7 PM. The October meeting will be held October 20.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Current Fund	Month of June 2026	Year to Date	Last Year
Sunday Offerings	\$ 21,169	\$ 148,084	\$ 147,563
Other Income	\$ 136	\$ 13,450	\$ 6,758
Expenses	\$ 19,161	\$ 173,347	\$ 138,557
Net Surplus (Deficit)	\$ 2,144	\$ (11,812)	\$ 15,764
Benevolent Fund Donations	\$ 3,890	\$ 26,517	\$ 20,877
Samaritan Fund Donations	\$ 33	\$ 2,467	\$ 4,109
CAMO Donations	\$ 750	\$ 750	\$ 1,200
Samaritan Fund Balance is \$2,419.			
Brian Amstutz, Treasurer			

YOUTH NEWS

YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

Calling all students entering 6th-12th grade! Come join us for Youth Fellowship this fall! We'll gather on Sunday evenings from 6:00–8:00 PM for fun, Bible study, and conversations about faith.

Our first gathering is Sunday, September 20th, from 6:00–8:00 PM at Putt-N-Stuff in Orrville! Students can be dropped off and picked up directly at Putt-N-Stuff.

Whether you've been part of Youth Fellowship before or this is your first time, we'd love to have you join us! Bring a friend and come see what Youth Fellowship is all about.

KIDS CLUB AND CAROL CHOIR

Do you have a child or grandchild entering into kindergarten-5th grade? If so, they will want to check out our Kids Club program! We meet each Wednesday from 5:30–6:45 PM for a delicious kid-friendly dinner, Bible stories, games, activities, and plenty of fun!

Our first meeting is Wednesday, September 30th downstairs in our Fellowship Hall.

For those who love to sing Sarah Finney will be directing this year's Carol Choir! Carol Choir meets directly after Kids Club giving kids an opportunity to share their love of music. We would love to have your child/grandchild join us, and friends are always welcome!

PRE-K - 12 SUNDAY SCHOOL

There will be no Sunday school for pre-k through 12th grade on Sunday, September 6th (Labor Day weekend).



Youth Fellowship members at the 2024 Back to school bash.



Fiona Currie enjoying family night at Kids Club in March 2026.



Kent Smith instructing middle/high Sunday school.

FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

CHRIST CHURCH GOLF OUTING

Our all-church golf outing is coming up on September 13 at 1:00 PM! Whether you're an experienced golfer or newer to the game, all skill levels are welcome for this fun, 9-hole outing.

We'll put together teams once we know who's interested in playing. If you'd like to join us, please let Nancy Hranko know by September 6. Come out for an afternoon of golf, fellowship, and fun!



Emma Fletcher and Nancy Hranko plant flower pots at the Ladies of Light gathering in May.

LADIES OF LIGHT

Join the Ladies of Light on Saturday September 5th for coffee and conversation! The group will be meeting at Sure House in Orrville beginning at 9:00 AM.

Don't miss a single meeting! Here's a look at what LOL will be doing this coming up this Fall:

9/5 - Coffee and Convos, Sure House Orrville
10/3- Coffee and Convos, Sure House Orrville
11/7 - Period Pack Assembly, Pole Room
12/5 - Speed Puzzle Competition, Fellowship Hall



Participants at Fall Camp 2025 build the altar for the weekend during Friday night opening worship

FALL CAMP - SAVE THE DATE!

Mark your calendars for November 6–8! We'll be heading back to Camp Wanakee for a weekend of fun, fellowship, and faith formation for all ages.

This year's theme is "Gather at the Table," a deeper dive into the meaning of Communion and what it means to gather around God's table together.

More information will be in the October newsletter, and registration opens October 1. We hope you'll join us!

MISSION AND OUTREACH

BED AND BREAKFAST UPDATE

We are so close to hitting our goal of 250 sheet sets and 250 boxes of cereal for the Salvation Army! As of August 11, we have collected 232 sets of sheets and 227 boxes of cereal.

The cereal gives families choices when they come to The Salvation Army for food, while the sheets will provide a practical gift that can benefit families in need for years to come. Thank you to everyone who has donated and helped make this celebration of 250 years one that gives back to our community. We only need 18 more sets of sheets and 23 more boxes of cereal to reach our goal!

PERIOD PACKS

The Ladies of Light will once again collect hygiene supplies to put together Period Packs for their November gathering. Please help us reach our goal of 50 packs by purchasing supplies. Cards with items needed can be picked up outside the office.

VBS FAMILY NIGHT

Our Vacation Bible School kids and their families gathered for Family Night on the final evening of VBS. Together, they prepared freezer meals to donate to Hope's House, a foster closet in Apple Creek that provides foster families with the supplies and support they need when welcoming a new placement.

These meals will be given to foster families during their first few days, helping make an often overwhelming transition a little easier. It was a wonderful way for our VBS families to put into action what we learned all week: we can all help build God's world by caring for one another.

SEPTEMBER SPECIAL OFFERING

The Special Offering for September is: Forget-Me-Not Baskets. Forget-Me-Not Baskets provides items of grief support, comfort and remembrance to families who have experienced a loss during pregnancy, birth or soon after.

Forget-Me-Not Baskets is based in Wooster, Ohio and partners with hospitals and obstetrics offices throughout Ohio and beyond. Their baskets contain items for moms, dads, siblings and grandparents.



Kathy Mack, Shirley Scott, and Julie Finney assemble period packs at a Ladies of Light gathering in 2025



Jaxon Curie and Avery Heater help pack meals for Hope's House at VBS 2026.

MUSIC OPPORTUNITIES

BELLS, BELLS, BELLS... OF CHRIST CHURCH!

Calling all interested in ringing in the bell choir! Regular practices will be Wednesday evenings during Kids Club (5:30-6:30pm). The first practice will be September 9th from 6:30-7:30pm. We will solidify dates of rehearsals at that first meeting. Please text your interest to Sarah Finney at 330-734-8254.

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Katie Brown	9/1
Korbin Sprowls	9/1
Julie Finney	9/2
Lindsey Lorson	9/3
Melanie Joyce	9/5
Amy Hostetler	9/6
Maycie Stocker	9/6
Vicki Nussbaum	9/7
Marilyn Thomas	9/7
Hartley Boss	9/8
Evan Renard	9/9
Hazel Biddle	9/12
Dale Scott	9/12
Brooks Mowrer	9/13
Linda Bilderback	9/15
Ethan Weeman	9/15
Abigail Weyrauch	9/19
Kenny Biddle	9/20
Vikki Gehring	9/21
Julie Smith	9/22
Ella Wallace	9/22
Mike Hostetler	9/23
Donald Robart	9/23
Sharon Singer	9/24
Carolyn Crall	9/25
John Kropf	9/26
Tyler Mowrer	9/27
Terri Brest	9/29
Will Schieber	9/29

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

David & Amy Walter	9/3
Donald & Ellen Grimes	9/4
Robert & Linda Orosz	9/4
Tanner & Alyssa Hostetler	9/4
Larry & Sharon Singer	9/10
Jason & Lisa Nussbaum	9/20
Bryan & Erica Troyer	9/20
Sack & Sythanh Luangraj	9/24
Brandon & Beth Gardner	9/24
Kenny & Jill Biddle	9/25
Joseph & Melanie Joyce	9/29



Hazel Biddle shows off her super hero outfit during games at VBS in July.