THE VISITOR

HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS



The Burkey family dressed for a shift in our Living Nativity at Home for the Holidays last year.

THIS MONTH AT A GLANCE:

11/1 Totenfest
11/5 Painting Through Scripture
11/10 Bigs and Littles
11/14 Ladies of Light - Service Project
11/14 Third Sunday Potluck
11/22 Thanksgiving Sunday Worship
11/27 Home for the Holidays
11/29 Hanging of the Greens Service

Home for the Holidays is back on Friday, November 27, from 5–8 p.m., and Christ Church will be ready to welcome the community!

Our live nativity returns, and we need volunteers to fill 20-minute shifts. We'll also be serving cookies and punch and need cookie donations by Wednesday, November 25. Sign-up sheets for both are posted outside the church office.

Visitors can also stop in to see our decorated sanctuary, enjoy Christmas carols played on the organ, and take a picture at our Christmas photo spot. The preschool will be set up, and our bathrooms will be open to the public.

We're glad to be part of this Orrville tradition and look forward to welcoming everyone who stops by!

HANGING OF THE GREENS

Our traditional Hanging of the Greens Service will take place during regular worship on Sunday, November 29. This beloved service includes Christmas carols, special readings, and decorating the church for Advent.

Dove Ornaments will once again be available in the Gathering Area for our sanctuary tree. If your family has welcomed a new baby this year, you are invited to choose a dove for your child, grandchild, niece, nephew, or another little one dear to your heart.

We also recognize that this season can bring heartache. If you have experienced the loss of a child, including pregnancy loss, you are invited to hang a dove in their memory, too.

To participate, choose a dove before worship, write the child's name on the back, and hang it on the tree during the service. Someone will be available in the gathering area to help.



THE HYMNS WE SING

In the time that I've been with you, you've probably noticed that I'm not musical. I have offered several clues, including not playing any instruments or singing in the choir. The biggest clue has probably come if my microphone has been left on while we sing a hymn. Every time I start at a new church, I get some disappointed looks when I explain that music isn't a part of my gifts. It is what it is.

Picking the hymns for us to sing each week is a chore for me, mostly because I don't know what you are used to singing, I don't read music, and I don't always care to just have you sing what you already know. Remember—Amazing Grace and Be Thou My Vision were new hymns at some point!

With Advent upcoming, we will have a month where we mostly sing the carols of the Christmas season. January offers a reboot, from a hymn perspective. A goal of mine for 2027 is to be more intentional about the hymns we sing—I'm even going to start a spreadsheet (that's a drastic move for an English major!). Would you participate by sending an email to scott.cucc@gmail.com and telling me what your 5 favorite hymns are? No need to tell me Christmas and Easter hymns, just give me the ones we can sing in our normal seasons of the church. I promise to give your selections proper consideration!

Peace,

Scott



CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING SUMMARY FROM OCTOBER 20, 2026

The nursery school staff presented the school's overview and mission, enrollment, fundraising activities, learning activities and goals for the year. Council expressed its appreciation for their efforts in reaching out to the congregation for assistance (Giving Tree) and the increase in community awareness (OrrViews articles, 4th of July parade, Trunk or Treat, and Home for the Holidays celebration). There was discussion on how scholarships can be offered to more families – Gresser Fund through the Wayne County Foundation and money that is budgeted.

Mike Finney and Nancy Hranko presented the 2027 church budget. There is a difference of - 4.4% from the 2026 budget mainly due to changes in the pastor's health insurance coverage.

Treasurer's Report and staff reports are on file.

There will be a follow-up meeting and an action plan developed for the group that completed the CPR/AED class.

The Bed and Breakfast activity was a success. Cereal, as well as canned meat, is always needed at the Salvation Army. The Salvation Army has a new director – Susan Kytta.

Thank you to Linda McHenry's team and Bill Arnold for the Fall flowers and pumpkins.

The new boiler is installed. The new office cabinets are installed. Countertops needed to be re-measured, then made and will be installed through a Lowe's sub-contractor. The organ needed some work. That has been completed.

A letter will be sent to congregation members, setting the date of the congregational meeting as November 15. Items: the 2027 budget, and the slate of council members. Moderator Elect – Kent Smith, Care and Community – Vicki Nussbaum, Secretary – Sharon Nelson (2nd term).

Next meeting November 10, 7 PM.

TREASURER'S REPORT

September 30, 2026

Current Fund	Month of Sept 2026	Year to Date	Last Year
Sunday Offerings	$ 19,136	$ 190,969	$ 189,680
Other Income	$ 4,832	$ 18,358	$ 9,938
Expenses	$ 24,879	$ 220,132	$ 176,510
Net Surplus (Deficit)	$ (911)	$ (10,805)	$ 23,108
Benevolent Fund Donations	$ 3,031	$ 32,329	$ 25,970
Samaritan Fund Donations	$ 79	$ 3,123	$ 5,125
Forget Me Not Baskets	$ 295	$ 295	

Samaritan Fund Balance is $1,774.

Brian Amstutz, Treasurer

MEMORIAL GIFTS

IN MEMORY OF

BOB AND FLORENCE DEUMMEL
John and Shirley Weyrauch

DAN EDWARDS
William Arnold
John and Shirley Weyrauch

FRED REHM
Joan Fiscus

A VETERAN'S DAY INVITATION:

All veterans of the US Armed Forces are invited to participate in our worship service on November 8. We will meet in the gathering area at 10:00 am on 11/8. Please let Dana Keirstead know if you will participate!

YOUTH NEWS



Jaxon, Michael, and Ti'Carris work to build a tower at Kid's Club.

BIGS AND LITTLES THANKFULNESS PARTY

Children age Kindergarten and younger with an adult are invited to Join us for a full evening of Thankfulness. We'll enjoy stories, activities, crafts, and snacks on Tuesday, November 10, from 6-7 PM in the Fellowship Hall.
No child is too young!

YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

11/1: 6-8p at the church

11/08: No YF due to Fall Camp

11/15: 6-8p at the church

11/22: 6-8p at the church

11/29: No YF due to the Thanksgiving holiday

KID'S CLUB

Kids Club will not meet on Wednesday, November 25th due to the Thanksgiving holiday. We'll meet every other Wednesday in November.

PAGEANT PRACTICE

Christmas Pageant rehearsals will begin Saturday 11/21 from 9-10 am. A letter will be sent home later this month. Contact Kaylene Holderman with any questions.

MISSION AND OUTREACH

ANGEL TREE

Donation tags for this year's "Angel Tree" will be available in the gathering area beginning Sunday November 1st. Please take a tag or two to help bless a a child or family this Christmas. Tag purchases will need to be returned to Radiant Life Church by December 3rd.

THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE

Once again, our youth will be collecting non-perishable food items for the Salvation Army. Items can be donated beginning November 1st through November 22nd. The Salvation Army already has an abundance of canned beans, spaghetti sauce, and other canned vegetables. They are in need of the following items: canned fruit, breakfast items, peanut butter, jelly, skillet meals, noodles, macaroni and cheese, instant mashed potatoes, and baking mixes. Please consider picking up a few items when you are out shopping.

LADIES OF LIGHT PERIOD PACKS

The Ladies of Light are collecting 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. Donations can be turned in through November 8th.

NOVEMBER SPECIAL OFFERING

The special offering for November is Friendship Meals.

Friendship Meals is an independent nonprofit that provides free, hot dinners to our community on the 2nd through 5th Thursdays of each month, beginning at 5:15 p.m. Meals are prepared in the Christ Church kitchen and distributed drive-up style, making it easy for individuals and families to pick up a hot meal to take home. Our November special offering will support the work of Friendship Meals and help them continue providing this service to our community.



Christ Church Youth Fellowship work to pack up the donations from last year's Thanksgiving Food Drive.

FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

THIRD SUNDAY POTLUCK

Sunday November 15th will be potluck. Bring a dish to share, table service, and your appetite. There is always plenty of food to go around. Come chat with friends new and old as we enjoy a meal together directly following worship.



Terri Brest leads her Kids Club class of kindergarteners through second graders through one of the many activities she planned for them for their first meeting.



The supplies are ready, we just need you! Join us for Painting Through Scripture on 11/5 from 7-8 PM.

LADIES OF LIGHT

Join the Ladies of Light on Saturday November 14th for our period pack service project. We will meet in the pole room at the church at 9:00 AM.

Mark your calendars!
12/5 - Speed Puzzle Competition,
Fellowship Hall

PAINTING THROUGH SCRIPTURE

Adults of all ages are invited to join us on the first Thursday of each month for a peaceful evening of Scripture, painting, conversation, and prayer. We'll spend time with a passage of Scripture, reflect on what it might have to say to our lives, and create something inspired by it. We'll meet on the second floor of the education wing from 7-8 pm on November 5th.

This is also a space to be together and share the things that are weighing on us, the things we're looking forward to, the joys we're celebrating, and everything in between. No painting experience is needed. Just come ready to slow down, create, and spend some time with one another.

PRACTICING PEACE



LISTEN FIRST

Listening sounds simple enough, but really listening to someone can be harder than we think. Have you ever found yourself already thinking about how you will respond before the other person has finished speaking?

Sometimes we hear an opinion we disagree with and stop listening altogether.

This month, try practicing the kind of listening that leaves room for understanding.

When someone shares a different perspective, resist the urge to jump in with a response or convince them to see things your way. Instead, ask a question. Try to understand where they're coming from. You don't have to agree with someone to listen with kindness and curiosity.

This month's practice: In one conversation this month, make a point of listening just to understand without trying to correct, or persuade. You might be surprised by what you learn.

Peace doesn't require us to see everything the same way. Perhapse peace starts with being willing to hear one another.



CJ and Avery work to remove summer plants from the planters outside the gathering area.

THANK YOU!

A big thank-you to Bill Arnold for donating the pumpkins and gourds, our youth for helping with the decorating, and Linda McHenry for organizing the beautiful fall decorations outside the church!

Thank you for making our church grounds welcoming and full of fall spirit!

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Our Hanging of the Greens service has been a treasured tradition for many years. Take a look back at our service from 13 years ago. While faces and traditions may change a bit, our love of worship remains the same. All of the photos below were taken by Shirley Weyrauch. See if you can spot some familiar faces!









SHARE YOUR MEMORIES

We would love to hear your memories of Christ Church! This month we are specifically looking for Christmas memories that we can share across various platforms. If you would like to share a memory scan the QR code to the right or watch for a link in the Chat or simply write down your memory and submit it to the office.

SCAN HERE TO SHARE!

LAST MONTH IN PICTURES



(Left) Some of the youth group boys wait in line for the go karts at this year's back to school bash



Haddie Jo Kirtley zooms around the go kart track at the youth fellowship back to school bash.

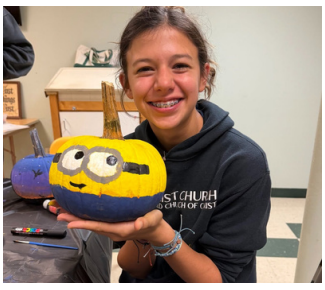


Charolotte Curie, Riya Ensor, and Lilly Maag work on promotional posters as part of a Kid's Club lesson.



Savannah Jones, Madalyn Yeagley, and Jack Wallace pose on the putt-putt coarse at the back to school bash.

(Right) Preschool, Kindergarten and Third Graders received their Bibles in worship on 10/4.



Maycie Stocker poses with the pumpkin she painted at youth fellowship on 10/18.



BIRTHDAYS

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

11/01 Etienne Pouly
Jackson Weyrauch
Sophia Lorson

11/03 Sadie Gehring

11/05 Linda Shafer

11/06 Shawn Boss
Calvin Moser

11/07 Lisa Biddle
Mark McHenry
Addilynn Musser

11/08 Beckett Savchuk

11/09 Katie Rogers
Adam Bupp
Linda McHenry
Ashton Musser

11/10 Judy Nussbaum

11/11 Jeff Weyrauch
Ralph Wyss
Margaret Shaffer
Annie Ayers
Dwaine Hemphill

11/13 William Weeman
Taygen Nelson
Jack Biddle

11/14 Sally Curtis

11/15 Luke Shumney
Adam Luangraj
Christopher Malcuit
Shirley Miller

11/16 Michael Weeman
Larry Adkins Jr.
Beth Gardner

11/18 Jason Ayers
Suzanne Birkbeck
Dennis Curtis
Vance Krites
Benjamin McGrew

11/19 Peter Schantz

11/20 Wren Brownlee
Joel Grimes
Kenneth Hershey

11/21 Marcy Andrews

11/22 Phoenix Brownlee

11/23 Ellen Grimes

11/24 Charles Thompson

11/25 Andrea Gatrell

11/26 Scotlyn Clarke
Rowan Craft

11/27 Mary Weeman

11/28 Christine Hawk



Jack Biddle paints with apples at this year's Bigs and Littles Fall Festival. Jack celebrates a birthday this month.

ANNIVERSARIES

NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

11/01	James & Sharon Nelson Joe & Nancy Hranko
11/04	Todd & Elizabeth Wallace
11/05	Marvin & Bethany Williams
11/10	Anthony & Lisa Smith
11/12	James & Cara Huntsberger
11/17	Jason & Stacey Haley
11/20	Dana & Patrice Keirstead
11/24	Mike & Julie Finney
11/25	Tom Tussey and Sarah Finney
11/28	Eric & Diane Smith



Dana and Pat pose for a picture at last year's Home for the Holidays event. The Keirstead's celebrate 61 years of marriage this month!

2026 POINSETTIA ORDER FORM

Time to think poinsettias again! This year, we will be ordering 6 inch pots for $8 each. The deadline to order will be Sunday November 15th. You may turn in your order and payment at the church office or fill out the blank order form below and put it with the payment in the offering plate. Thank you!

Name

_____

In Memory of

_____

_____

Cash _____ Check _____
Env. # _____ # of plants _____