

Christ Lutheran Church

10827 N. Main Street
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Mantua, OH 44255

Rev. Blake J. Martzowka

Kayla Ballentine

Administrative Assistant

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Sunday Live Stream: YouTube

Sunday School 9:45 am

Sunday Worship 11:00 am



October 2025

Christ's Messenger

The Heart of Christ, in the Midst of Greater Mantua

A Message from Pastor Blake...

“For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.” (Rom. 1:16) Here the gospel refers to the promise of forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation on account of Christ Jesus’ life, death, and resurrection. The Apostle Paul suffered much for the gospel. He was rejected by his fellow Jews, attacked by mobs, stoned, scourged, and at one time shipwrecked. Everyone and everything seemed to be against him. Yet in all of these he remained faithful to his calling. Why? Because Paul knew that he had been **“set apart for the gospel of God, which He promised through His prophets in the holy Scriptures, concerning His Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by His resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord...”** (Romans 1:1-4)

Martin Luther and many other reformers suffered similarly for their declaration that a person is saved by trust in Christ Jesus alone apart from good works. At one time Luther was hunted by the governmental authorities in Saxony. During this time, he lived in Wartburg Castle under the false alias “Knight George.” There he translated the Greek New Testament into German. Luther did doubt at times whether what he was doing was in accordance with God’s will. After all, state and church opposed him. Nonetheless, during difficult times such as these, he returned to the Scriptures, where he was reminded that the gospel he proclaimed was not man’s gospel but God’s gospel delivered to His apostles through His Son. With this knowledge he could stand before princes and say: “Here I stand, I cannot do otherwise.”

Pastor’s message continues on page 2...

Maybe we aren't persecuted in the same way by the world because of our faith. But we are certainly attacked and persecuted by the devil and his angels. As St. Peter warns us: **"Be sober minded: be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour."** (1 Peter 5:8) They desire that you would fall away from the Christian faith on account of the difficulties of life let it be issues with money, health concerns, doubts concerning God and His love for you. In all these things they want you to reject the gospel as false. Yet in the midst of these trials we should run to Scripture and cling to the promises that God has given us, remember our baptisms and the gift of salvation given to us there, seek nourishment and strength for our faith in the proclamation of God's Word and the Lord's Supper given to us in the gathering of the saints. As St. Peter goes on to say: **"Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world. And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to His eternal glory in Christ, will Himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you."** (1 Pet. 5:9-10)

Peter died for the faith, crucified in Rome. Paul was beheaded in the same city, having made the good confession. Luther died at the age of 62 from health complications, never having renounced the gospel he was so bold to proclaim. These men, and many more like them throughout church history, were willing to sacrifice so much in this life while clinging to the gospel in faith, because they knew that the God who had promised them these things loved them so much that He had given His only begotten Son to die for them, and that He was faithful and able to fulfill the promise of deliverance and eternal life He had given them just as He had done for His Son by raising Him from the dead. Centuries have passed since the Reformation, and even more time has passed since the death of the Apostles, yet our conviction remains the same: **"No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us."** (Romans 8:37) The Triune God is your mighty fortress. Dwell in Him.

-Pastor Blake



Worship Schedule

“Serving With a Heart Like Jesus”

	October 5 th Communion	October 12 th	October 19 th Communion	October 26 th Reformation/Comm.
Greeter	Barb Lange	Linda Hobson	Pat South	Kat Flynn
Acolyte	Lily Kanengeiser	Makenna Ballentine	Abigail Flynn	Jameson Flynn
YACA	Jon Pozwick	N/A	Jameson Flynn	Lexi Ballard
Reader	Ron Stamm	Becca Goodell	Tim Snodgrass	Anna Lee Heinl
Ushers	Kat Flynn	Melisa Pozwick	Joanne Q	Brian Lottig
	Jameson Flynn	Ryan Goodell	Larry Q	Katie Toothman
Media	Christina Eaton	Brian Swires	Melisa Pozwick	Melisa Pozwick
Power Point	Lexi Ballard	Lucas Swires	Jon Pozwick	Jon Pozwick
Deacon	Nathan Goodell	Joanne Q	Kat Flynn	Tracy Stamm
Elder	Brian Lottig	Brian Lottig	Brian Lottig	Brian Lottig
Cross Bearer				Amy Toothman

4 C's Local Food Pantry

October donations being collected are
Pasta Sauce
Canned Corn
Canned Green Beans
Jello

Please place donations in the basket
in the narthex marked “4 C's”
*Christ Lutheran Church is a drop-off
location for the 4C's*

MEMORY CHALLENGE

VERSE:

“All Scripture is God-
breathed and is useful for
teaching, rebuking,
correcting and training in
righteousness.”

2 Timothy 3:16

A note from Christina Eaton:

Thank you to everyone who helped us
get situated in our new house. From
helping us buy flooring, lending your
muscles, cash donations, taking over
my cleaning duties, and providing a
meal. Jake, Lexi, and I are extremely
grateful and touched by the support of
our church family. We literally could
not have done it without your support.



DATES TO REMEMBER

Fall Fest
October 4th
11-3 PM

Deacons Meeting
October 5th
After church

Women's Bible Study Begins
October 11th
10 AM

Loaves & Fishes
October 15th
5-6:30 PM

Women's Guild Meeting
October 16th
6:30 PM

More than a Mom
October 18th
9:30-11:30 AM

Pavilion Dedication
October 19th
After church

Reformation
October 26th

We welcome our newest member,
Elisabeth Jane Alunaaq Owen,
into the church family. She is the daughter of
Hannah and Jared Owen. Her big brother Charlie joined their
parents as Pastor Blake officiated her baptism on
September 21st. Welcome Elisabeth!



A heartfelt thank you to Anna Lee and John Heintz for their generous donation of Lutheran Study Bibles to our Catechism students. Your gift will support our students in their faith formation and guide them on their journey of learning and spiritual growth.

-Pastor Blake, the Catechism students, and their families

From Christina:

My coworker has a son who needs your help!! Mark is a doctoral student in the Counseling Psychology program at the University of Central Arkansas. I would really appreciate it if you would help him out by taking his 4-day, 5-minutes per day study that will hopefully strengthen you spiritually and emotionally. His study aims to help Christians deepen their faith and connection to God. I hope that you will join this 4-day study and benefit from the exercises. Thank you for considering helping him. (to join the study, follow the link below and scroll to the bottom after all the legal verbiage).

https://ucachbs.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_7WGKCDPufAHk7cy



FALL FESTIVAL: OCTOBER 4TH

Car & Tractor Show - Entries will be by donation. Donations will help the church general fund.

Vendor Spots- We will have a limited number of vendor spots available for purchase. Fees will benefit the general fund. See Christina for details.

A sample schedule:

11am -Opening Pledge of Allegiance - Lead by Scouts

Potato Pancakes are available.

Pumpkins for sale.

Raffle basket sales open.

Kids crafts and games open.

Car & Tractor Show opens.

12pm-Childrens Costume Parade-trick or treat to the cars. Followed by Pet Parade.

Kids pumpkin hunt

1:30pm- PIE THE PASTOR

2pm-Car/Tractor Judging and announcement of winners after

2:30pm-Raffle Basket winners pulled

3pm-Wrap up and head home.

The Scouts will have popcorn, baked goods, hamburgers, and hotdogs for sale as well! Tickets will also be available for their Half A Hog raffle.

Registration by donation -first 50 get Swag bag **Registration Day Of by donation**

Venmo @Christ_Lutheran_Mantua

Send a check/cash to: Attn: Fall Festival, Christ Lutheran Church 10827 Main St, Mantua, OH 44255, check payable to Christ Lutheran. Or if you would prefer dropping off -Christ Lutheran office between 10am & 2pm, weekdays and Sundays 9:30am to 1pm

Please print clearly

Name: _____

Email: _____

Phone #: _____

Year & Make of Vehicle/s: (anything on wheels: tractor, motorcycle, car, or whatever surprise you want roll in. _____



Youth Education

Christina Eaton
Christian Ed Director

Sunday School

-We did a one room classroom and Evan Goodell got to be Lazarus for the reenactment of Jesus telling him to rise and walk. Students enjoyed wrapping him and each taking a turn to be Jesus.
(See photos of the fun below!)

-Having a party for reformation day on 10/26 in class at 9:45am. Parents are welcome to join as we learn about Martin Lutheran and the 5 Solas.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

October 26th - Reformation Party

December 20th- Christmas Pageant practice
11am to 1pm

December 21st - Christmas Pageant & meal after service.



Sunday School

9:45-10:45 am

3 classrooms

Ages 3-6yrs Hannah Owen

Ages 7-12yrs Christina Eaton

Youth 13+ Melisa Pozwick

Snack sign up posted on Sunday School board.

Youth News

-Selling pumpkins at the Fall Festival. Get yours! Please personally invite your neighbors, family, and friends to the Fall Festival and Car show!

-Join us for Youth Nights with Pastor - 4th Sunday of the month. Next one is Oct 26th. Enjoy a Bible study, food, fun, and even some games! Welcome to bring friends!

-Gloria Dei Youth worship is back on Oct 12 please let Melisa or Christina know if you are coming. You are welcome to bring friends. We meet at CLC at 5:15pm and are back around 8:30pm dinner is provided.

-The next youth gathering is in San Antonio Texas – July 3rd – 7th, 2028. This is for youth entering Freshman and recently Graduated Seniors. If you are interested, please contact Melisa or Christina.

Women's Ministry

All Women in the
Congregation

LOAVES AND FISHES COMMUNITY MEALS

October 15th 5:00-6:30 pm

The free meals are served the 3rd Wednesday of every month in the Christ Lutheran Church downstairs Fellowship Hall.
If you and your friends would like to help (you don't have to be a member to help), contact Pat South at 330-257-0948 for what is needed.

Women's Guild
Meeting:
Join us
October 16th
6:30 PM

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY-

Called "Women of the Word" this new bible study begins **October 11th**. Led by Jenny Clemens. They will meet every second Saturday of the month at 10 AM and will be studying The Book of Ester. All women of the congregation are welcome!

MORE THAN A MOM-

Saturday, October 18th from
9:30-11:30 AM.
Pot luck breakfast and child care
provided.

Evangelism

1. We can use a few more volunteers for the **Fall Festival!** Sign up in the narthex or see Christina. Many hands make light work!
2. We are hosting some treats (no tricks!) for **Mantua Halloween.** Trick or Treat is usually on Halloween 10/31 from 6 to 8pm. We are collecting candy, please leave in the narthex. We need volunteers to help give out coffee and hot chocolate and the candy. The community utilizes our parking to safely get kids to homes. Let's take this opportunity to connect with our neighbors and share God's love!



Council

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE: Melisa Pozwick

We continue to expand and improve our beautiful church. The new programs and activities are wonderful to see. If you want to borrow any table and chairs, the only ones you can borrow are the old wood tables and the metal chairs. The new table and chairs for both the pavilion and downstairs need to be on property. Any questions, please reach out to the trustees.

COUNCIL MEETING:

Our next council meeting will be held on **October 26th** after service. We welcome anyone who would like to attend the meeting.

ANNUAL VOTERS MEETING:

Our Annual Meeting will be held **November 16th** after church. Voter Members qualifications are anyone who has attended a Council, Voter or Special meetings in the past 2 years. These members are the only ones that can vote during this meeting.

TRUSTEES: John Clark

Please join us Sunday **October 19th** after service as we dedicate the new pavilion in honor of Ruth Briggs. Food and fellowship to follow. If you have any questions please contact Kat Flynn.

TREASURER'S MESSAGE: Laura Keen & Tim Snodgrass

The following is our financial data for the past 3 months:

Month	Income	Expense	Net Income	YTD Net	Operating Cash
June 25	\$10,497	\$11,703	-\$1,206	-\$6,021	TBD
July 25	\$10,856	\$13,013	-\$2,157	-\$8,178	TBD
Aug 25	\$14,597	\$12,484	\$2,113	-\$6,065	TBD
YTD Jun	\$94,722	\$100,787	-\$6,065		

We have money in Dedicated accounts (not operating) we have been using to cover operating expenses. Our spending is under budget, but our income is not covering our monthly expenses.

2025 Officers

Council:

Melisa Pozwick	President
Anna Lee Heinl	Vice-President
Diane Lottig	Secretary
Laura Keen	Treasurer
John Heinl	Financial Secretary

Committee Chairpersons:

Ron Stamm	Head Elder
Katherine Flynn	Head Deacon
John Clark	Head Trustee
Christina Eaton	Education Director

"Hearts from Christ"

The Elders at Christ are starting a new charitable fund to assist members and friends of Christ Lutheran Church who find themselves in need. This fund will be called "Hearts from Christ." It is established to provide financial assistance for active members of Christ Lutheran Church who are in need as well as to purchase a memento of care for active members of Christ Lutheran Church and friends of the congregation going through difficult times. If someone needs assistance, they should contact Pastor Blake and the elders. Any request will be kept strictly confidential. This fund will be completely dependent upon free-will offerings given by the congregation. You can donate to the Hearts from Christ fund anytime of the year by marking an envelope dedicated to "Hearts from Christ" and placing it in the offering plate.

God answers prayer.

At Christ Lutheran, we know the power of prayer.

Ezekiel 22:30 says, *"I looked for a man among them who would build up the wall and stand before me IN THE GAP on behalf of the land."*

GAP, (God Answers Prayer), is one of these prayer ministries. Those who serve in this ministry serve in the gap that Ezekiel wrote of as they are available to pray for people.

Please contact Barb Goodell who will begin the prayer chain for your need.

GAP MINISTRY

Barb Goodell	330-274-2161
Hannah Owen	330-931-0839
Kelly Britt	330-357-1101
Diane Lottig	330-274-2868
Linda Hobson	330-562-8327
June Zamecnik	330-281-7202
Tracy Stamm	330-571-0304
Shirley Bellar	330-281-8327
Anna Lee Heinl	330-842-2080
Joanne Quesenberry	330-274-2991
Christina Eaton	234-703-9735
Pat South	330-257-0948
Ellen Froelich	330-274-2081

Birthday Blessings on your special day
and throughout the year!

Patti Bowman	10/3
Erynn Koerlin	10/3
Corey Flynn	10/6
Pat South	10/6
Ashley Head	10/10
Celia Esala	10/19
Karl Koerlin	10/22
Makenzie Snodgrass	10/26

birthday
BLESSINGS

Prayers for Hope, Healing, Comfort &
Guidance

Members

Corey Flynn, Kat Flynn, Tim Toothman, Fred Myers

Young Families

The Ballard/Eaton Family, The Ballentines,
The Flynn's, The Goodells, The Goodrichs,
The Koerlins, The Martzowkas, The Owens,
The Pozwicks, The Rickseckers, The Sandricks,
The Swires, The Toothmans, The Tutwilers

Shut-ins

Linda Koerlin, Tom Briggs,
Jill Kravcisin, Becky Krichbaum

Friends & Family

Steven Blunk, Linda Havener, Lisa Bey,
Rick Kilpatrick, Sam Weise, Dylan Graybeal &
Klarissa Schott, Jim Flynn, Dwight Husk,
Theresa Higgins, Tommy Barr, Sandy Dills,
Oke Meyer, Holly Simpson, Mary Smith,
Brenda Elling, Andrea Belding, Virginia Goodell,
Pam & Bob Maynard, Nancy Lacan, Kelly Oles,
Mart Clark, Dottie Cherry, Keith Goodell

Military Service

Caleb Dean Pete, Robert South, Owen Heinl
Monte Stamm

Baptismal Birthdays

Jesse Ballentine – October 3rd
Erynn Koerlin – October 3rd
Joanne Quesenberry – October 4th
Barbara Goodell – October 12th
Kayla Ballentine – October 24th
Evangeline Flynn – October 25th
Logan Goodrich – October 25th
Madison Goodrich – October 25th
Carter Swires – October 29th

Wedding Anniversaries

Joshua & Heather Parr – October 10th
Jesse & Kayla Ballentine – October 13th
John & Linda Clark – October 14th