

## Christ Lutheran Church

10827 N. Main Street  
P.O. Box 737  
Mantua, OH 44255

Rev. Blake J. Martzowka

Kayla Ballentine

Administrative Assistant

Office Hours: M-F 10:30 am-2:30 pm

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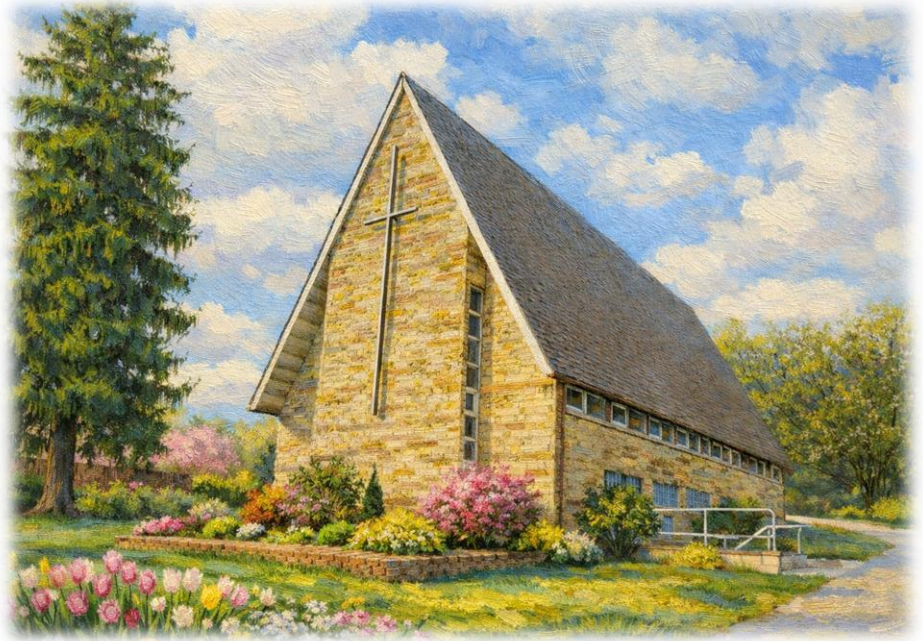
Email: [clcmantua737@yahoo.com](mailto:clcmantua737@yahoo.com)

Website: [christlutheranmantua.org](http://christlutheranmantua.org)

Sunday Live Stream: YouTube

Sunday School 9:45 am

Sunday Worship 11:00 am



## April 2026

## Christ's Messenger

*The Heart of Christ, in the Midst of Greater Mantua*

### A Message from Pastor Blake...

During my Aunt Sandy's funeral procession, I rode in a car with a few family members. Someone in the car said: "We don't know what happens after death." What a foolish thing to say. They were wrong. We do know what happens after death because Christ Jesus has risen bodily from the dead, vacated His tomb, and appeared, spoke, and ate with many people - at one time as many as 500 - many of whom were still alive during mid-50s A.D. when Paul wrote his letter to the Church at Corinth (1 Corinthians 15:6). The Apostles, commissioned by the risen Christ Jesus to preach His word on His behalf to all the world, tell us that we will be like Him (1 Corinthians 15:49; Philippians 3:20-21; 1 John 3:2). If you want to know what life after/beyond death is like, look at the risen Christ Jesus and what His Apostles say about it.

We can know many things about life beyond death by looking at the risen Christ Jesus and what He is like, such as:

- 1) We will recognize and be recognized by others just as the risen Christ recognized His disciples and was recognized by them (Matthew 28:16-17; Luke 24:36-49; John 20:11-29; 21:7, 15).
- 2) Our lives before death will not be forgotten just as the risen Christ continues to bear testimony in His flesh to His crucifixion (Luke 24:39; John 20:27; Revelation 7:6, 12).
- 3) Life beyond death will transcend the natural laws of this world (such as entropy) just as the risen Jesus' body transcends spatial limitations (Luke 24:31, 36; John 20:19).

Pastor's message continues on page 2...

4) Just as the risen Christ has died to sin once and for all and is free from sin and its consequences, so too will we be free from sin and its consequences for all eternity, including sinful desires and inclinations; actions that harm us, one another, and alienate from God; a guilty conscience (sins of the past will no longer bother us!); and even suffering and death (Romans 6:9-10).

5) At some point our souls will be reunited with our earthly bodies, and our earthly bodies will be raised and transformed just as the earthly body of Jesus has been raised and transformed for all eternity (Mark 16:6; 1 Corinthians 15:35-57).

And from the words of the Apostles and the words of Jesus which they have handed down to us, we know that right after death this new life beyond death will begin as our souls go to wait with the Lord Jesus for the resurrection of our bodies (Luke 24:43; 2 Corinthians 5:1-8). Moreover, based on their words, we know that this life will be in vibrant technicolor, not some shade of the life here on earth, because the joys there will be greater than the worst suffering here on earth and the life there will be one of perpetual celebration as we eat, drink (yes, even good Lutheran beverages), meet new people, reunite with old familiars, love, talk, remember, praise, dance, know everything fully, dwell in houses, and participate in a renewed heavens and a renewed earth (Matthew 19:29-30; Luke 13:29; 22:18; Romans 8:18-21; 1 Corinthians 13:8-12).

Jesus Christ – God made Man – has promised eternal life to all those who trust in Him. You have eternal life through faith in Christ Jesus (John 6:35-40). He has united you to His death and resurrection so that you may know for certain that just as He has been raised from the dead, so too shall you be raised from the dead (Romans 6:3-5). There are many uncertainties in life, but this promise is absolutely certain. The One who raised the dead during His earthly ministry has promised you life everlasting and He has already manifested this eternal life in the midst of our world – in the sight of many witnesses – through His resurrection from the dead (1 John 1:1-2). Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia! Amen.

Pastor Blake



## **DATES TO REMEMBER**

**Maundy Thursday**  
April 2<sup>nd</sup>

@ St. Thomas  
7 PM

**Good Friday**  
April 3<sup>rd</sup>  
@ Christ  
7 PM

**Easter Breakfast**  
April 5<sup>th</sup>  
9:45 AM  
Before Easter service

**More than a Mom**  
April 18<sup>th</sup>  
9:30-11:30 AM

**Voters Meeting/  
Council Meeting**  
April 19<sup>th</sup>  
After service

**Scouts Spaghetti Dinner**  
April 25<sup>th</sup>  
4-7 PM

# Worship Schedule

# “Serving With a Heart Like Jesus”

	April 5 <sup>th</sup> Communion/Easter	April 12 <sup>th</sup>	April 19 <sup>th</sup> Communion	April 26 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Greeter</b>	Pat South	Lexi Ballard	Barb Lange	Melisa Pozwick
<b>Acolyte</b>	Logan Ballentine	Lily Kanengeiser	Natalie Goodell	Makenna B
<b>YACA</b>	Lexi Ballard	N/A	Evan Goodell	N/A
<b>Reader</b>	Tim Snodgrass	Ron Stamm	Jon Pozwick	John Heintl
<b>Ushers</b>	Melisa Pozwick	Joanne Q	Katie Toothman	Brian Lottig
	Jon Pozwick	Larry Q	Ryan Goodell	Evan Goodell
<b>Media</b>	Becca Goodell	Melisa Pozwick	Christina Eaton	Brian Swires
<b>Power Point</b>	Natalie Goodell	Jon Pozwick	Lexi Ballard	Lucas Swires
<b>Deacon</b>	Jake Ballard	Nathan Goodell	Tracy Stamm	Larry Q
<b>Elder</b>	Jenny Clemens	Jenny Clemens	Jenny Clemens	Jenny Clemens

## 4 C's Local Food Pantry

April donations being collected are

- Pasta Sauce
- Sloppy Joe Sauce
- Canned Pasta
- Pancake Syrup

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:

"Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life. He does not come into judgment but has passed from death to life."

**John 5:24**

## *For your information...*

**EASTER BREAKFAST-** Easter Sunday is **April 5<sup>th</sup>**. We will be having a special breakfast before service beginning at 9:45 AM. We are asking for food donations. Please sign up in the narthex if you'd like to help. Thank you!

**SERVE WITH US!-** We have several opportunities to get involved every Sunday! We are currently looking for ushers, greeters, readers, etc. If you have a heart for service, we'd love to have you on the team! Please see Kat or Kayla if you'd like to sign up.





**Pancake Breakfast 2026!**



# Youth Education

**Christina Eaton**  
Christian Ed Director

## Sunday School

We are opening our lessons each week with church etiquette review. We continue to learn lessons in Unit 8 for example we learned about Lydia, her baptism, and why the color purple was so important.

Our weekly attendance average is 4.

**Please keep bringing in your gallon milk jugs!**



**You're invited!**



## 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

-THANK YOU to the many helping hands that made the pancake breakfast possible! We had the best turn out yet with over 336 adults fed.

Special thanks to our sponsors: Goodell Family Farms, Thrivent, Express Employment, and Ballard Brothers Lawncare!

Save the date for next year  
**March 20, 2027!**

-We have been missing our youth students in Sunday School! Encourage them to attend!

-Our next Fundraiser for San Antonio will be in May- Peterson Nuts (for June pick up-think Father's Day gifts!)

# Women's Ministry

All Women in the  
Congregation

## LOAVES AND FISHES COMMUNITY MEALS

April 15<sup>th</sup> 5:00-6:30 pm

The free meals are served the 3<sup>rd</sup> 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:  
**April 16<sup>th</sup>**  
@ 6:30 PM

The Women's Guild will meet on **April 16<sup>th</sup>** to welcome Becky Tipton from Mantua Center Christian Church. She will speak about her church's evangelism program called SMILE. This program is described as "Randoms acts of kindness for church members, community, and beyond." Plan to attend to get ideas for our own evangelism efforts. Program begins at 6:30 PM. Refreshments will be served.



SOMEBODY  
*berry sweet*  
IS ON THE WAY

Please Join Us For A Baby Sprinkle Honoring :

*Ruth*

*Martzowka*

Christ Lutheran Church :  
10827 Main Street, Mantua OH 44255

26

Saturday  
May 30<sup>th</sup>  
At 9:30am

Shhh... It's a Surprise! This will be during the more than a moms group . RSVP Kat Flynn 561-292-8127

### More Than A Mom:

**April 18<sup>th</sup>** 9:30 – 11:30 AM

All are welcome. Grandmas are encouraged to come and share their wisdom. Babysitting is available.

**May 30<sup>th</sup>** 9:30 – 11:30 AM

Shhhh...it's a surprise!

During our May meeting we will be hosting a surprise baby sprinkle for Ruth! If you would like to attend, please let Kat Flynn know ASAP.

←See invitation for more details

*Baby*  
ON THE  
*Way*

# Council

## 2026 Officers

### COUNCIL MEETING:

Our next council meeting will be held on **April 19<sup>th</sup>** after service. Please note we will also be having a Special Voters Meeting beforehand. We welcome anyone who would like to attend the meeting.

### TREASURER: Tim Snodgrass

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

Month	Income	Expense	Net Income	YTD Net
Dec 25	\$12,513	\$13,799	-\$1,286	\$6,019
Year-End 2025	\$158,279	\$152,260	\$6,019	
Jan 26	\$10,065	\$12,902	-\$2,837	-\$2,837
Feb 26	\$10,825	\$11,873	-\$1,048	-\$3,885

### TRUSTEES:

On behalf of the trustees, we would like to thank the scouts, their parents, and all involved in the painting of the fellowship hall. It was an amazing job well done in such a short amount of time. They kept to the agreed time schedule, and it was completed in a very neat manner. Thanks again!



### **Council:**

Linda Clark	Chairperson
Anna Lee Heinl	Vice-Chairperson
Donna Snider	Secretary
Tim Snodgrass	Treasurer
John Heinl	Financial Secretary

### **Committee Chairpersons:**

Brian Lottig	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**

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

**Birthday Blessings on your special day and throughout the year!**

<b>Emmet Blunk</b>	<b>4/8</b>
<b>Lennon Ricksecker</b>	<b>4/8</b>
<b>Benjamin Blunk</b>	<b>4/9</b>
<b>Shannon Goodrich</b>	<b>4/9</b>
<b>Fred Myers</b>	<b>4/15</b>
<b>Braylon Head</b>	<b>4/19</b>
<b>Logan Goodrich</b>	<b>4/27</b>
<b>Janice Kilroy</b>	<b>4/29</b>
<b>Logan Ballentine</b>	<b>4/30</b>

**Prayers for Hope, Healing, Comfort & Guidance**

**Members**

Corey & Kat Flynn, Tim Toothman, Fred Myers, Gay Wetshtein & Family, Marla Bellar, Baby Martzowka

**Young Families**

The Ballard/Eaton Family, The Ballentines, The Flynn's, The Goodells, The Goodrichs, The Koerlins, The Martzowkas, The Owens, The Parrs, 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, Oke Meyer, Mary Smith, Andrea Belding, Brenda Elling, Pam & Bob Maynard, Nancy Lacan, Kelly Oles, Mart Clark, Dwight & Dottie Cherry, Keith Goodell, Kelly Styron, Jim Kilroy, Debbie Bujak, Lew Ramos, Gina Hunter

**Military Service**

Caleb Dean Pete, Robert South, Owen Heinl Monte Stamm

**Baptismal Birthdays**

Katie Toothman – April 1st  
Barbara Lange – April 4th  
Tracy Stamm – April 7th  
Lily Tutwiler – April 8<sup>th</sup>  
Heather Parr- April 27<sup>th</sup>

**Wedding Anniversaries**

**NONE**