

HILLTOP HERALD

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH • LINGLESTOWN, PA

🌐 ChurchOnTheHilltop.org 📘 @Church.on.the.Hilltop.Linglestown

JUNE 2026



CONFIRMED IN THE FAITH!

Seven of our Confirmation students, **Madison Bowers, Aria Bricker, Caleb Cassell, Mollie Gebhard, Carter Sobers, Jeremy Stank and Trevor Unfried** have affirmed their faith as young adult members of the church. The Rite of Confirmation took place on **The Holy Trinity Sunday, May 31, 2026, at our 9:30a.m. service.**

Thank you to those who came to celebrate with all our confirmands and their families on this special day.



COMING SOON... A NEW DIRECTORY!



With your help we can create a new directory to be distributed to each household in the near future. But we need your participation to do so. **Starting now, please complete an attendance form on Sunday morning with your current information; please print legibly with your name, address (also add the names of those living in the same household), phone numbers, specify if it is a LAN line number and/or Cell phone number and who is linked to each cell number listed. Email addresses listed for adults only (and state which email address belongs to which person.)** We have to collect a lot of information to get the most updated directory. If you need more space, please continue on the back of the attendance form. And if you prefer, you can email the requested information to Sherry at secretary@churchonthehilltop.org. Information will be due June 30th. Let's get going! Thank you to the 25 families who have already submitted their information. And thank you for your cooperation!

A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR...

Dear Christ Church Family,

This year is special in our congregation because we are offering the Rite of Confirmation for seven of our young people who have completed two years of instruction in the Lutheran Christian faith. We give thanks for the presence, the spiritual gifts, and the public profession of faith in Christ of these seven siblings in Christ: Madison Bowers, Aria Bricker, Caleb Cassell, Mollie Gebhard, Carter Sobers, Jeremy Stank, and Trevor Unfried. Congratulations to each of them upon this special milestone in their lives of Christian faith! Additionally, we must give our thanks to our Confirmation instructors: Mrs. Marilyn Koones and Mr. Brian Williams. Their gifts and talents as teachers, their knowledge and experience as Lutheran Christians, and their examples of faith for our young people are invaluable and appreciated.

Our young people are the future, and indeed, are important parts of the present of the church universal, and of our congregation here in Linglestown. Upon confirmation, they are imbued with rights and responsibilities, because as active confirmed members they become voting members of the congregation. Confirmed members who maintain active membership thus have voting privileges in congregational meetings, are eligible to serve in congregational positions of leadership, and of course, have continual access to the sacraments and rites of the church. Confirmed and voting membership also comes with responsibilities, including attending worship and receiving the Sacrament of the Altar regularly; making contributions of time, talent, and treasure as they are able; and by living out the Christian faith in the world.

Confirmation is not a sacrament in our tradition, but it is a special rite offered after a period of instruction in the Bible and traditional Lutheran beliefs and practices. When a baptized member (typically a youth) completes their period of instruction and feels ready to make a public profession of Christian faith in the Lutheran church, ...continued on page 2

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they then are given the opportunity to publicly proclaim Christ as Lord by affirming their baptism in the presence of the congregation, and they receive prayers of blessing and anointing with oil, calling to mind the work of the Holy Spirit in their lives, empowering them to faithful Christian living. Although more typically held on Pentecost, this year in our congregation, Confirmation Sunday is held on Holy Trinity Sunday, which is an appropriate day, as we reflect on our lives as Christians who are baptized “in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.”

In our highly individualistic society, it is a real treasure to be part of something much bigger than oneself, to commit to it, and to maintain faithfulness to our tradition. It is a real celebration to bring these seven young people fully into the life of our community, as we all seek to renew our Lutheran Christian faith, living faithful lives according to the Bible and our Lutheran confessional heritage. Congratulations to our confirmands, and thanks be to God!

Peace of Christ, Pastor Sean Titus

After-Five Group

The After Five Group continues to meet for lunch the first Wednesday of the month. We will gather in Fellowship Hall on **June 3, 2026 at noon**. Bring your own food and beverages. Come join us for fellowship. You can come and go as your schedule permits. Hope to see you there!

Congregation Council

A **reminder** to Council members that the June meeting will be combined with the July meeting and will be held on **July 12 at 10:45a.m.** in Fellowship Hall.



DO YOU KNOW OF ANY GRADUATES? PLEASE LET THE OFFICE KNOW SO WE CAN CONGRATULATE THEM IN A FUTURE NEWSLETTER. THANK YOU.

Youth Happenings...

Christ Lutheran Youth (CLY-Grades 6-12)

Harrisburg Area Confirmation Camp to be held at Camp Nawakwa--
June 21 through June 26, 2026
watch for more details!

NEW CONFIRMANDS



We are seeking out our youth who are entering 7th grade or above who are not in Confirmation class now.

We have an idea of who may be eligible but we don't want to miss anyone. If you have a child who is entering 7th grade or who is above 7th grade, we would like to hear from you so that we can plan for our confirmation class that starts in the fall. We will be giving out Bibles to our new confirmands before the end of summer but would like to know so that we can have a Bible for all of our students. Please contact the church office or the Pastor if you have a child eligible for confirmation, or if you have any questions. Thank you.

SYNOD ASSEMBLY

It is scheduled for **June 5-6, 2026** to be held at *St. Matthew Lutheran Church, York*. Pastor Titus, and Karen & Ed Holtzman will be our congregation's voting members at Synod Assembly. Please keep them in your prayers.



- “Dear Church Family, thank you. We really appreciate your thoughtfulness! Thank you for sharing the altar flowers with us. We so appreciate your gestures of God's love toward us. Thanks, too, for cards sent to John and for your prayers for him. He is holding his own.” Blessings, Susan & John Potteiger

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Children's Choir -- Starting in the Fall, we are looking for someone to help with a children's choir to practice on Sunday mornings.

Christian Education Team Leader Needed --

After many years of spearheading this very important role for our younger children, Heather Wevodau will be stepping down as the Team Leader for the Christian Education Committee. Please consider yourself or maybe there are two or three individuals to share this responsibility; and who may realize this is very important decision to keep our Sunday Church School up and running. Thank you.

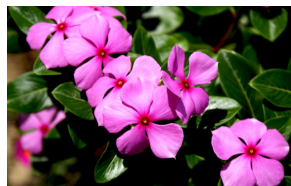
Worship Assistants Needed — We are always in need of worship assistants. Please use Sign-up Genius online or speak with Sandra Zumbum.

Serve as a volunteer on Sunday mornings-- to help make church happen! A sign-up sheet is on our website (click "volunteer signup"). If you don't use online sign-ups, simply contact Sandra Zumbum, our coordinator, at 717-579-8363.

If you are interested in volunteering for any of the above listed, or have any questions, please contact the office or you can speak directly with Pastor Titus. Thank you.

Rest Eternal Grant Her, O Lord

Jeane M. Motter, a long-time member of our church family died May 10, 2026. Pastor Titus officiated at her service held at Hoover's Funeral Home in Linglestown, and graveside at Blue Ridge Memorial Gardens, on May 14, 2026. Please remember in your prayers, her granddaughters, Christina Hughes & Heather McCrory, her brother, Donald Runkle, the rest of her family and all those who mourn.



Annual Church Spring Clean-Up

Thank you to all of those who came out for our annual Spring clean-up on May 16th. We had perfect weather and a lot of volunteers to help spruce up our church grounds. A big shout out goes to: *Ken Albert, Dan, Chase & Caleb Cassell, Paul Daniels, Melissa & Derrick Gebhard, Lee Haynos, Karen Holmes, Tim Morgan, Kathy, Samantha & John Parker, Jessica & Scott Sebastian, Jeff Wadsworth, Cindy & Jim Weiler.*

A lot was accomplished and the church grounds are very welcoming. We could not have done this without all of you!

And thank you to those who have come at different times when they were able; Sue Daniels, Bill & Sherry Madara, Tim Morgan & Jim Weiler. And anybody else that I was not aware of...thank you!

These folks came out to help with our outdoor cleanup day. Do you recognize any of them?



WELCOME NEW MEMBER!

We welcome Stephen Unfried into our family of God here at Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church in Linglestown. He was recently received by transfer from another Lutheran church.

We pray God's blessings be with him as he joins us in ministry in this place. Please welcome him into our church family.

You Got Talent?

With the summer months quickly approaching, I am asking if anyone would like to volunteer for special music. No matter what level of talent you have, whether you are a



beginner, or an expert, whether you sing or play an instrument, if you have any musical selections you would like to share I would love to find a place for you in the coming services. If you want to sing a favorite hymn with a friend, play a song with a parent, or any sort of solo, we would love to have you! So, if you are willing and able to share your gifts with your congregation, please speak with our Music Director, Seth Wickenheiser today!



CAREGIVER'S SUPPORT GROUP



We are pleased to offer a caregiver support group for those caring for an elderly spouse, parent, relative, or friend. This group will provide a safe space for caregivers to discuss the challenges they face in their demanding roles. If you're having a tough day, feeling frustrated, or seeking information about community resources, this group is for you. It's also a chance to connect with others and share your experiences.

If you're interested in participating, please call Dennis DeSantis at 717-439-9630. During our first meeting, we can discuss the frequency, day of the week and time that works best for everyone. We'll meet in a private room at the church, ensuring your privacy.

WOMEN'S PRAYER GROUP

The Women's Prayer Group will meet again on June 15, 2026 at 7:00p.m. in the Great Room. Please join us with this group of faithful followers.

Pastor's Bible Study...

Looking for a group of fellow believers to pray & study the Bible with? Come to Bible Study on Wednesday mornings at 10:00a.m. in the Great Room. All levels of experience are welcome! We will continue to meet in the summer months. Come join us!

"Are you an artist or a graphic designer?"

Do you like to draw?
Do you take fabulous photos?
How would you like to have your work featured on a bulletin cover?



We usually have images taken from the "Sundays & Seasons" resources online, but we could also just as easily use the artistic eyes and hands of our church family for this space. Art abilities of any level and artists of any age are welcome to share their work! Talk to Pastor or Sherry if you'd like to submit something for us all to enjoy on Sunday morning!"

