



+Christian Symbol+

SHIP

The Christian church has long been symbolized by a ship. While the Old Testament tells of Noah's ark preserving righteous people during the flood, the New Testament recounts Jesus calming the storm that battered the disciples' fishing boat. St. Ambrose described the church as a ship with the cross as its mast, and others have compared salvation to being drawn out of the sea of death into the safety of the church (ship). Indeed, many large churches are constructed to represent a big boat, with the main worship space called the nave — Latin for ship.

CHAPEL NEWS

Return Service Requested

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH
337 Fairview Avenue
Paramus, New Jersey 07652

CHAPEL NEWS

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

BELIEF IS TRUTH
HELD IN THE MIND;
FAITH IS A FIRE
IN THE HEART.

— JOSEPH FORT
NEWTON

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

We'll be holding our annual meeting on Sunday, January 25th at 11:15am, following a shortened 10:00am Worship.

All confirmed members are encouraged to attend. Your vote counts!

Hope to see you there!



IN OUR
Thoughts
AND
Prayers

Patrick, Noyes "Bart" Bartholomew, Dolores Brickman, The Brooks Family, Charlie Brown, Tony Calise, Mike Chapman, John Claebsen, Bryant Rodriguez Cyriax, Carol Daley, Carol DeMott, Carol Doyle, Marge Durdunas, Amber Faison, Al & Barbara Frieling, Krista Fuchs, Cassandra Griffin, Mary Carolyn Harrison, Carol Hodgins, Pat Kelly, Dennis & Jennifer Kruk, Kaitlyn Kruk, Carol & Hugh Lally, Dolores Lowack, Marie Lupinski, Linda McFate, Jennifer Pinto, Doris Robinson, Lynda Romagnoli, John Schaefer, Tina Smith & Family, Dave Spleith, the Vega Family, Devin Vega, Janice & Dave Wedderman and Raymond Zweil

CHRIST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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2025 CHRISTMAS HAPPENINGS AT CHRIST



Setting up the manger



Moving the Three Wise Men



Lighting the Advent Wreath



Decorating the church



Decorating the Christmas Tree



STAFF GIFT COLLECTION

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As we continue through the twelve days of Christmas, our hearts naturally turn toward gratitude for the many blessings in our lives. Among those blessings is our dedicated church staff, who serve our congregation with such care and faithfulness throughout the year.

To honor their hard work, we invite you to participate in a special "Staff Gift" collection. These funds will be distributed at the end of January to our Office Administrator, Organist, and Sexton as a tangible expression of our thanks for their ministry among us.

If you would like to contribute, please place your gift in an envelope marked **Staff Gift** and drop it in the offering plate or mail it directly to the church office.

Thank you for your continued generosity and for helping us show our staff how much they are appreciated.

Yours in Christ,

Chris Nilsen

President, Congregation Council

WHAT WE REALLY NEED

Twelve ministers were on a flight headed to a conference in Seattle when the plane hit a fierce storm. Trying to calm their nerves, they told the flight attendant, "Let the pilot know everything's fine — there are twelve ministers on board!"

A few minutes later, the flight attendant returned from the cockpit.

"Well?" one of the pastors asked with a grin. "What did the pilot say?"

She smiled and replied, "He said he was glad to have 12 ministers aboard, but he would rather have four good engines."

BIBLE QUIZ

Fill in the blank to complete this verse from 2 Corinthians:

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new _____. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come."

- A. Creation
- B. Beginning
- C. Season
- D. Covenant



Answer: A (See 2 Corinthians 5:17, ESV)

JANUARY

Lay Assistant | Usher Altar Guild | Counter Schedule

JAN 4	10:00am
Lay Assistant	Pam Sakala
Usher	Anne Carman
Altar Guild	Gina Lally
JAN 11	10:00am
Lay Assistant	Carrie Ralstob
Usher	Linda Comery
Altar Guild	
JAN 18	10:00am
Lay Assistant	Chris Nilsen
Usher	Margarete Denicola
Altar Guild	Linda Polise
JAN 25	10:00am
Lay Assistant	Pat Berinato
Usher	Lori Mercer
Altar Guild	Gina Lally
Counter	All hands



We extend our deepest sympathy to the family of Marge Tomaselli, one of the original members of the church and our beloved matriarch, who passed away on Monday, January 5, 2026. May she rest in eternal peace.

JANUARY 2026

Church (CH)
Fellowship Hall (FH)
Family Room (FR)
Office Building (OB)

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 New Year's Day <i>Church office closed</i>	2	3 Crafty Ladies (OB) 10:00am
4 Worship Service (CH) 10:00am	5 Epiphany	6	7	8	9	10
11 Baptism of Our Lord Worship Service (CH) 10:00am Council Meeting (OB) 11:15am	12	13	14	15	16	17 Crafty Ladies (OB) 10:00am
18 Worship Service (CH) 10:00am	19 Martin Luther King Jr. Day	20	21	22	23	24
25 Worship Service (CH) 10:00am Annual Congregational Meeting following a shortened church service 11:15am	26	27	28	29	30	31

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH STAFF AND COUNCIL

Vice Pastor
Office Administrator
Sexton
Director of Music Ministries
President
Vice President
Council Secretary
Treasurer
Recording Financial Secretary

Pastor Miller
Debbie Geerlof
Bob Sakala
Michael Wittenburg
Chris Nilsen
Bill Jaichner
Pam Sakala
Chuck Young
Pat Berinato

Inward Ministry Team
Christian Education Pam Sakala
Shepherd
Worship & Music Chris Nilsen

Outward Ministry Team
Servant Jan Behnke
Rosemary Chandra

Administrative Team
Financial Chuck Young
Property Bill Jaichner