



## +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 Farview 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 Claehsen, Bryant Rodriguez Cyriax, Carol Daley, Carol DeMott, Carol Doyle, Marge Durdunas, Amber Faison, Al & Barbara Frielink, 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 Splieth, 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

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



# In Sympathy

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

### Administrative Team

Financial Chuck Young

Property Bill Jaichner

### Outward Ministry Team

Servant

Jan Behnke

Rosemary Chandra