



Chestnut Hill Views

From the Pastor's Desk

Greetings all!

Can you believe that Advent is almost upon us? Wait, what?!?! What happened to Thanksgiving?!?!? Here I go, falling right in step with all of our local stores, forgetting that we have time yet before Christmas is upon us. The unfortunate thing is that this Newsletter covers two months and I have to jump into both of these holidays with my feet forward ready to run.

So, I want to take a moment and pause...a moment to breathe before we all get too busy in the holiday rush...a moment to remember that we have had some really special people move on to the next realm this year. I want to take a moment to remember and breathe in their presence amongst us because they left an indelible mark on my life, that's for certain. As we prepare to move into Thanksgiving and Christmas, two individuals come to mind the most to me because they really loved the holidays. These two wonderful their spirits will be with me this year.

I also want to make sure that we all take a moment to pause and give thanks for all that God has done through us in the last 9 and a half months. Did you know that we changed a life last year through our outreach efforts? Did you know that we touched many more lives than we will ever know through our "Giving Tree" this year? And that we will touch many more lives as I share the great work that we are doing, people want to know how we do it and what we are doing! We are changing lives and making the world into the place that I believe God has designed for us to be in. It is amazing to think that we were able to touch lives this year and our work is not yet done!

As we move toward celebrating the birth of Christ, let us remember these things as we prepare for God to be born as an infant and live among us because Christ returns each and every moment of our days as we live out our calling in this world to be his eyes, ears, feet, and mouth and to lift up the oppressed and downtrodden. May this be our mantra into the New Year...we are foolish enough to believe that we can make a difference in this world!

Peace and blessings,

Pastor Christian

Church Happenings and News:

Budget Meeting: This is a call to our annual Budget Meeting on Sunday, November 17, 2019.

Please plan to join us to ask questions and provide input on our financial budget for 2020. The budgets will be available for you to pick up on your way out of church next Sunday, November 3, please make sure to take a copy and review prior to our meeting

Constitution and By-Laws: The work on the revised and updated Constitution and By-Laws work has been completed. In the coming weeks, paper copies will be available in the Narthex. When they are, please on your way out to take a copy of the revised documents to review prior to our annual meeting in January/February.

Vitality Team: The Vitality Team continues to look at ways to enhance our worship experience and to re-energize our call to be Christ's disciples in the world. We ask that you hold this team in prayer as they develop and institute ways for us to reach to the least of these.

Grief Support Group: The Grief Support Group, led by Craig Adams, continues to meet every month, on the last Wednesday of the month. The group has been doing book studies and discovering how their grief helps them to live in this world and acknowledges that not everyone grieves in the same way. If you are interested in learning more, please see Craig Adams for more information.

Annual Scrip Gift Card Fundraiser: Well, Christmas is right around the corner...especially if you go into a Walmart store! They have Halloween, Thanksgiving and Christmas decorations already out! "HALLOTHANKSCHRIST" We will be selling our Scrip Gift Cards again this year. The Scrips program provides us with some income, because you pay the value of the card and the church earns a percentage from the card sale. The percentage of income ranges from 1% up to 15%, depending on the card. The cards are secured and delivered to you at church. Since it is a one stop shopping, no more running from store to store and it saves you gas! Orders and checks made payable to Chestnut Hill Church need to be submitted to Debbie Koder by Sunday December 1st. Cards should be delivered by Sunday Dec. 15th. If you have any questions, please see or call Debbie Koder – 610-390-9026

Ushers: We are looking for folks to help during the worship services. If you are interested in collecting offering and helping with communion, please sign up on the sheet in the lower Narthex .

CHC Logo T-Shirts: We still have some CHC T-shirts available for sale at \$10.00, please see Debbie Koder for available sizes and details. We may also offer children's t-shirts, if you are interested in getting a children's shirt, please let Debbie know. If there is enough interest, we could get another order together. Debbie can be reached at 610-390-9026.

Faith Night at the Lehigh Valley Phantoms: Friday March 20 at 7:05 pm. Cost is \$23.00 per person, please see Heather Clark for more information.

Church News and Information:

Men's Fellowship Group: A new men's fellowship group is in the process of forming. We gathered for the first time in October and will be looking for days and times that suit most folks. The group is open to all men, of all ages. If you are interested, please watch the bulletins and the TVs for information as it develops and becomes available.

Online Sermons and Interaction with the Service (trivia and polls): On your smart phones, download and install Faithlife Bible App and request to be part of our presentation group. Pastor Christian will add you and you can use a digital bulletin, interact with the trivia questions, or participate in polls. If you are interested in following along, see Heather Clark and she can help you get it set up on your phone.

Facebook: Chestnut Hill Church is busy making it a lot easier for you to stay in touch and in communication with the church, our members and our friends. If you are not already on Facebook with CHC, what are you waiting for? We have 2 pages on FB, the first one below is our closed group, anyone can join this group, but we need you to send us a request to join. We currently have 72 members who have already joined and we have over 250 members in our congregation, so let's see if we can get more to join us. Please go to this link: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/269721049717923/> to join the group.

Instagram: We are now on Instagram. Check us out at [instagram.com/chestnuthillchurchucc/](https://www.instagram.com/chestnuthillchurchucc/)

Thrivent Choice Program: If you are a member of Thrivent Financial, make sure you select Chestnut Hill Church as a recipient of your Choice dollars.

Amazon Smile: If you shop through Amazon, make sure you are always going through smile.amazon.com and that Chestnut Hill Church is your chosen charity. Nearly every purchase earns us a contribution!

Upcoming Sermon Series Information:

<u>Date:</u>	<u>Sermon Title:</u>	<u>Focus Scripture:</u>
Established in God's Love Series:		
11/3/2019 (All Saints' Sunday)	"Talking with God"	Matthew 6:9-13
11/10/2019	Guest Preacher: Andrew Warren	
11/17/2019	"Sharing God"	Matthew 28:16-20
Advent Series: God with US		
12/1/2019	"Hope"	Isaiah 2:1-5
12/8/2019	"Love"	Isaiah 11:1-10
12/15/2019	"Joy"	Isaiah 35:1-10
12/22/2019	"Peace"	Isaiah 7:10-16
12/24/2019 (4:30 PM)	"God IS With US"	Isaiah 9:2-7

Upcoming Special Services and Information:

Sunday, November 10: We will have a guest preacher with us on Sunday, November 10th as we take a brief break from the sermon series, "Established in God's Love". We will be joined by Rev. Andrew Warner, CFRE, who serves as Director of Development for the Wisconsin Conference of the United Church of Christ and as a Generosity Outreach Officer of the national setting of the UCC. He leads the fundraising efforts of the Wisconsin conference, supports the planned giving and effective philanthropy of congregations, and works to organize a foundation based on a community foundation model for the endowments of the conference and congregations. Come join us as Rev. Warner brings the message for the day and gives us some encouragement on generosity and stewardship.

Pastor's Upcoming Vacation and Time Away for the Conference: Beginning November 21st through Thanksgiving, Pastor Christian will be taking some Sabbath time for family and restoration before we begin our journey into and through Advent. Pastor Christian will also be away to attend to some Conference duties from December 2 through December 7. In his absence, he will have coverage for pastoral emergencies, please watch the bulletins for information on who to contact in case of an emergency.

Conference Happenings:

Fall Conference Meeting: We will have our fall Conference Meeting on Saturday, November 2, at St. John's in Northampton. Our keynote speaker will be Tod Bolsinger, PhD, Author of *Canoeing the Mountains: Christian Leadership in Uncharted Territory*. Dr. Bolsinger will also be holding a special workshop on Friday, for anyone interested in attending that event with Pastor Christian. If you are interested in attending the one day workshop, please see Pastor Christian for more details and registration information.

Cultivating Generous Congregations: The Penn Northeast Conference and the Pennsylvania Southeast Conference of the UCC are joining together with the Lake Institute on Faith & Giving to invite you and your ministry teams to participate in a seminar experience that could change the way you and your congregation approach giving and generosity. **January 24-25, 2020 (Friday 8AM to 4PM and Saturday 8:30AM-4PM) at Church of the Good Shepherd, 35 W. Philadelphia Ave., Boyertown. Cost is \$350 per church team (4-5 members made up of clergy, lay leaders, administration and/or stewardship committees).** The cost includes one booklet per team. If a team would like more than one book, there will be an additional cost of \$50. **Deadline to register will be December 5, 2019.**

Money and Ministry presented by PNEC & Financial Ministries UCC on **November 9 -- 9AM to 3PM** at the PNEC Office, 431 Delaware Ave., Palmerton -- **Cost:** \$10/person. **Workshops Topics** - Trends in Giving: What Donors Want; Planned Giving: Utilizing an On-Line Tool to Get Started; Roundtable Discussion - Best Practice Sharing to register, go to <https://tithe.ly/event-registration/#/826426> or send names & check to PNEC **by Nov. 1.**

Whine Women & Worry Updates and News:

News: Our group was very busy this summer. The giving tree was a success. We decorated the tree with 100 envelopes with each envelope designating a monetary amount. When all 100 envelopes were turned back in, we raised \$5,050.00 and some additional funds were given for us to be able to give \$1,167 to each of the following five charities: Lifepath, Lehigh Valley Hospital Street Medicine, Valor Clinic, Truth for Women, and Sixth Street Shelter. We are hoping the monies that we donated will make difference in someone's life!

Monthly Meetings: Our group is growing and we have a lot of activities and events coming up (see below). Ladies, if you have never attended a meeting, feel free to join us, we meet the 3rd Monday of the month at 6:30, the location changes, but we are always at the church somewhere. Our group has fun filled conversations and we are always looking for ways to share our Christian Love with someone in the community! We would love to have you join us!

Upcoming Activities

Annual Spaghetti Supper and Basket Social: The WWW is hard at work for the upcoming Spaghetti Dinner/Basket Social that will be held in the fellowship hall on Saturday November 9 beginning at 4. Dinner is free, bring your family and friends and enjoy a great meal and fellowship. We are seeking donations of spaghetti sauce only at this time, if you can contribute please place your items in the bin in the fellowship hall. We will be taking donations until November 3. If you feel creative and would like to donate a basket for the event that would be great, the baskets will be due as well on November 3. 50% of the profits this year will be going to the Center for Humanistic Change. Tickets for the baskets will be on sale the day of the event. The cost of the tickets will be 15.00 for 1 sheet which gives you 26 chances to win or 20.00 for 2 sheets for 52 chances to win.

Perkins Pie Fundraiser: Save yourself from baking pies this year--Whine, Women, and Worry group is selling Perkins pies for Thanksgiving. See one of us for an order form—payment required at the time the order form is turned in to a member of WWW. Checks should be made payable to Chestnut Hill Church. Pies will be available for pick up at the church on Wednesday, November 27, from 3 pm to 7 pm.

<u>Pie Selection</u>	<u>Price per pie</u>
Apple	\$13
Caramel Apple	\$14
Cherry	\$14
Coconut Cream	\$14
Lemon Meringue	\$14
Peanut Butter Silk	\$15
Pecan	\$13
Pumpkin Pie	\$11
Pumpkin Cream	\$12
French Silk	\$15
Wild berry	\$14
No Sugar Added Apple	\$13

Matthew 2; Luke 1-2

Who Had a Part?

When Jesus was born as a tiny baby, many people had a part in His birth. Some announced Jesus' birth, some people came to worship Jesus, and some people took special care of Baby Jesus. Every person's part was very important in God's special plan for the birth of His Son, Jesus.

Unscramble the names of several of the people who had a part in the birth of Jesus and write their names on the lines. If you need help, look up the Bible verses. Then find the names hidden in the candle puzzle. Candles are often used as decorations when we celebrate Jesus' birthday, because candles remind us that Jesus came to earth to bring us spiritual light.

- 1. GLAEN _____
(Luke 2:10)
- 2. MOENSI _____
(Luke 2:25-32)
- 3. SEHLETABI _____
(Luke 1:39-40)
- 4. BLGEAIR _____
(Luke 1:26-31)
- 5. RHDOE _____
(Matthew 2:13)



- 6. HPSOEJ _____
(Luke 2:4)
- 7. RYMA _____
(Luke 2:5-7)
- 8. DPHEESRSH _____
(Luke 2:15)
- 9. SWIE NME _____
(Matthew 2:1)
- 10. RAZCHAAIS _____
(Luke 1:39-40)

CONGREGATION CORNER

Each month Stephanie will be “interviewing” one of our members to get to know everyone at Chestnut Hill. As part of that process, Stephanie will also write up a “story” of that person’s life for the newsletter. Let’s see how much you know about your fellow Chestnut Hill family members. Can you guess who our “interviewee” is for September? There is no October interviewee.

Fall greetings Chestnut Hill Church!

I am a person of few words, so this will be short and sweet. I was born and raised and still reside in Breinigsville PA. I have been a member of Chestnut Hill for my entire life. When asked if I had a hobby, it only took me a minute to answer, oh yes, I do, my hobby is firefighting! Firefighting gives you an adrenaline rush, it also gives me comfort in knowing I am helping someone out of potential danger.

My favorite holiday is Christmas when you can hear me singing away to the hymn of O Come All Ye Faithful. I enjoy a good meal and one of the best is Steak & Grilled asparagus. I am probably one of the few people who could go an entire day without my phone.

I am happily married to my spouse and my 2 children are the apple of my eye. Being with my wife and witnessing my children being brought into the world was the happiest day of my life.

Who am I?

September member: Leroy Gross



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November greetings to my Chestnut Hill Church Family!

I was born many years ago in a little town called Zionsville. I have been a member of CHC since I was an infant, I was on the Cradle Roll, does anyone even know what that is today? I am involved in a lot of the activities that go on at church. I enjoy singing, some of my favorite hymns are Ave Maria, Friends are Friends Forever, I Believe, Here I am Lord and many more. I am married to my wonderful and supportive spouse for 49 years; it would be wonderful to have 49 more! I have 3 children and 4 grandchildren. Having my grandchildren over to bake is one of my favorite things to do. I also enjoy working in the flower beds and experimenting with new flowers. If you would ever stop over for a cup of coffee you would see I have a tree currently occupying my kitchen, it is in a pot of course. I enjoy traveling. I have been many places; Alaska is my favorite so far. I have also traveled to Hawaii, Disney, Grand Canyon and the National Parks of the United States. I have fond memories of those vacation spots. When it is time to relax, I enjoy watching NCIS with a bowl of ice cream. If I could ask one person from history a question it would be Eve. I would ask her “What were you thinking and why weren’t you afraid of that apple?” If I was stranded on a deserted island, I couldn’t be without my husband, coffee/water and food. Who am I?

Merry Christmas Chestnut Hill Family!

I was born not too far over the hill in Allentown. I have been member of CHC for about 15 years, I just recently started attending again after the death of my father, since I have been attending again, I am active within the church. I would love to find a way to energize the youth of today with perhaps starting a youth group. I have been married for 17 years to my rock star spouse! I have 2 great kids who are very involved in activities that keep me running all over creation. I enjoy helping with different groups in the community, such as sports organizations, community theater and of course church. When I can, I enjoy snuggling under a blanket and catching up on sleep, you can never get enough beauty sleep. I love to travel and see other cultures. Bermuda is on the top of my list so far. I enjoy seeing movies, my favorite right now is Aladdin with Will Smith. Pizza or Mexican are my food of choice. If I could ask one person from history a question it would be God. I would ask him how I could help fix the world. If I was stranded on a deserted island, I couldn’t be without my husband, my kids and my mom. Who am I?

ELECTRONIC OFFERING

If you would like to give your offering electronically, we now have a method for you to do just that. Below are the instructions to set up your electronic offering account. Follow the instructions on the website. If you need added help: Pat Snyder or Pastor Christian can help you. For those who wish to continue using the regular offering envelopes, you will continue to receive the envelopes in the mail as you have in the past. The envelopes will continue to be mailed to you every 2 months. If you have any questions about the envelopes, please contact Pat Snyder. If you are using E Offering and no longer wish to receive envelopes, please let Pat Snyder know this as well.

Instructions on How to Sign Up for Electronic Offering

To create a new account, go to: www.members.myEoffering.com

On Log in screen, click “register”

Enter the following information: Name, E-mail, and choose a password that you will remember. Once you have this completed, click on “Register”, you will receive an email on how to finish registering. Once you have clicked on the link from email, you will need to login and then read the onscreen instructions and click the “Proceed” button.

Next, you will need to select a church, so click on “Churches” at the top of the screen. Next click on “Join a church+”. Search for Chestnut Hill Church, select the church which has our address showing, and “Join+”. You do not need to provide a member or envelope #.

After you have selected Chestnut Hill Church, you must add a wallet. Click on “Wallets” on the top of the screen and then “Add a Wallet+”. Follow the onscreen instructions as they come up on the screen...and click on “Add Wallet+”

To setup an offering, click on “Offerings” at the top of the page and “Add New Offering+”. Choose the option that best fits how often you would like to give and the date upon which to begin drawing those funds. Funding source is your choice from where to draw the funds (i.e. your checking account or credit card found in your “Wallets”). Remember to select the fund to which you would like your offering to go, enter an amount and if you choose to contribute to more than one fund, you have the option to do so.

Fees to use a checking or savings account are \$.30 and the fees for using a credit card fees determined by the credit card company.

Pastor: Christian Creyer (Pastor Christian)
Church Phone: 610-967-1196 Home Phone: 610-351-8044
Email address: pastorxn@hotmail.com
Office Hours:

Days and times by appointment. Pastor's Cell: (484) 866-5229

Financial Report—September 30, 2019

Checking/Savings Accounts:

QNB checking	\$ 25,580.04
Building Fund	\$ 8,784.49
Special Savings	\$ 37,456.06

Investment Portfolio:

Miller Endowment	\$ 422,987.21
Hoff Endowment	\$ 204,372.87
Ameriprise	\$ 9,918.45

Answers to Trivia Questions on Page 6

1. Angel,
2. Simeon,
3. Elisabeth,
4. Gabriel,
5. Herod,
6. Joseph,
7. Mary,
8. Shepherds,
9. Wise Men,
10. Zacharias



Church Mice.