

God's Light Really Shines Through You

A mom in our congregation texted me today, and I could tell she was crying happy tears while she typed. Her daughter Iris has a teacher who has the kids write a compliment to a classmate every week as a writing exercise. Iris picked Chloe, a girl she's becoming good friends with this year. The note is printed here. It's short.

To: Chloe Date: Oct. 21, 26

Compliment: God's light really shines through you

From: Iris

Chloe's mom told Iris's mom it brought tears to her eyes to know her daughter has a friend at school who shares her faith. I love Iris's faith. I've read that note a dozen times today and I keep landing on the same thing. Iris could have complimented Chloe's shoes or her drawing, and she wrote about God. She noticed something in her friend, said it plainly, and signed her name.

I've been on the receiving end of a lot of that kind of noticing since I broke my leg. I'm lousy at being on the receiving end, and I've had to learn it. You've built me up in ways I'm still finding words for. Honestly, I've been itching to give it back. The apostle Paul has a line in Romans 12:10 that I've always liked: outdo one another in showing honor. Picture a church where everybody is trying to out-love everybody else. I'd like to win that contest, and I suspect I'll lose to this congregation. Nobody's keeping score, and God has already paid the bill.

UPCOMING DATES

- November 1 - All Saints Sunday
- November 7 - Fall Craft Fair
- November 15 - Animal Stuffing
- November 21 - Sequence Night



Jesus told his disciples, "You are the light of the world," and then told them to let it shine (Matthew 5:14, 16). He says what they are before he says what to do. Iris said it the way I'd want to say it: God's light shines through you, and you didn't make it. Generosity works that way too. Whatever we give, our time, our attention, our money, started out as something we were handed.

That's what we've been talking about all fall in "Building a Culture of Generosity." Money is part of it, and I'm not going to pretend otherwise. The pantry, Opportunity House, Christ Church Children's Center, and Friends, Inc. all run on what we give financially on a regular basis. But a compliment on an index card costs nothing, and it can still change somebody's whole week, perhaps even their whole life. A kid with a pencil figured that out.

So here's my ask. Before this coming Sunday, tell one person what you see God doing in them. Text it, write it on a card, or say it in the parking lot. Be specific. Chloe now knows exactly what Iris sees in her.

Intention is an amazing thing. And God started the work in you before you ever picked up a pen. Paul says God will see it through (Philippians 1:6).

PMilne

WORSHIP IN OCTOBER

All Services at 9:00 AM ✠ Sunday School follows Children's Sermon

CAN'T MAKE IT SUNDAY MORNING IN PERSON?

Worship with us LIVE or later — Sunday through Saturday — on YouTube! **https://www.youtube.com/@christmertz/streams**

Nov 1 - Service of Holy Communion

All Saints Sunday

Readings: Revelation 7.9-17; Psalm 34.1-10,22
1John 3.1-3; Matthew 5.1-12

Serving:

Reader: Margie Miller
Acolyte: Madison Stump
Usher: Kathy Greiss
Altar Guild: Mike and Joan Richards
Communion: Sue Smith, Margie Miller
Greeter: Pat Roth, Grace Bohn
Council: Phil Anzelmo, Craig Kemp

Nov 8 - Service of the Word

24th Sunday after Pentecost

Readings:Amos 5.18-24; Psalm 70
1Thessalonians 4.13-18; Matthew 25.1-13

Serving:

Reader: Ramona Wolf
Acolyte: Kayley Heffner
Usher: Linda Hilbert
Greeter: Tara Basta, Mike Richards
Council: Phil Anzelmo, Craig Kemp

Nov 15 - Service of Holy Communion

25th Sunday after Pentecost

Readings: Zephaniah 1.7,12-18; Psalm 90.1-8,12
1Thessalonians 5.1-11; Matthew 25.14-30

Serving:

Reader: Kristin Haring
Acolyte: Margaret Kamp
Usher: Debbie Reitenauer
Altar Guild: Bill and Marianne Carey
Communion: Art Kayhart, Bill Koch
Greeter:Deb Adam, Denise Williams
Council: Phil Anzelmo, Craig Kemp

Nov 22 - Service of Holy Communion

Christ the King

Readings: Ezekiel 34.11-16,20-24; Psalm 95.1-7a
Ephesians 1.15-23; Matthew 25.31-46

Serving:

Reader: Nadine Hoffman
Acolyte: Noel Lawrence
Usher: Bonnie Lombardi
Altar Guild: Bob and Ramona Wolf
Communion: John and Jeanette Tomasi
Greeter: Tom and Sue Trupp
Council: Phil Anzelmo, Craig Kemp

Nov 29 - Service of Holy Communion

1st Sunday of Advent

Readings: Isaiah 64.1-9; Psalm 80.1-7,17-19
1Corinthians 1.3-9; Mark 13.24-37

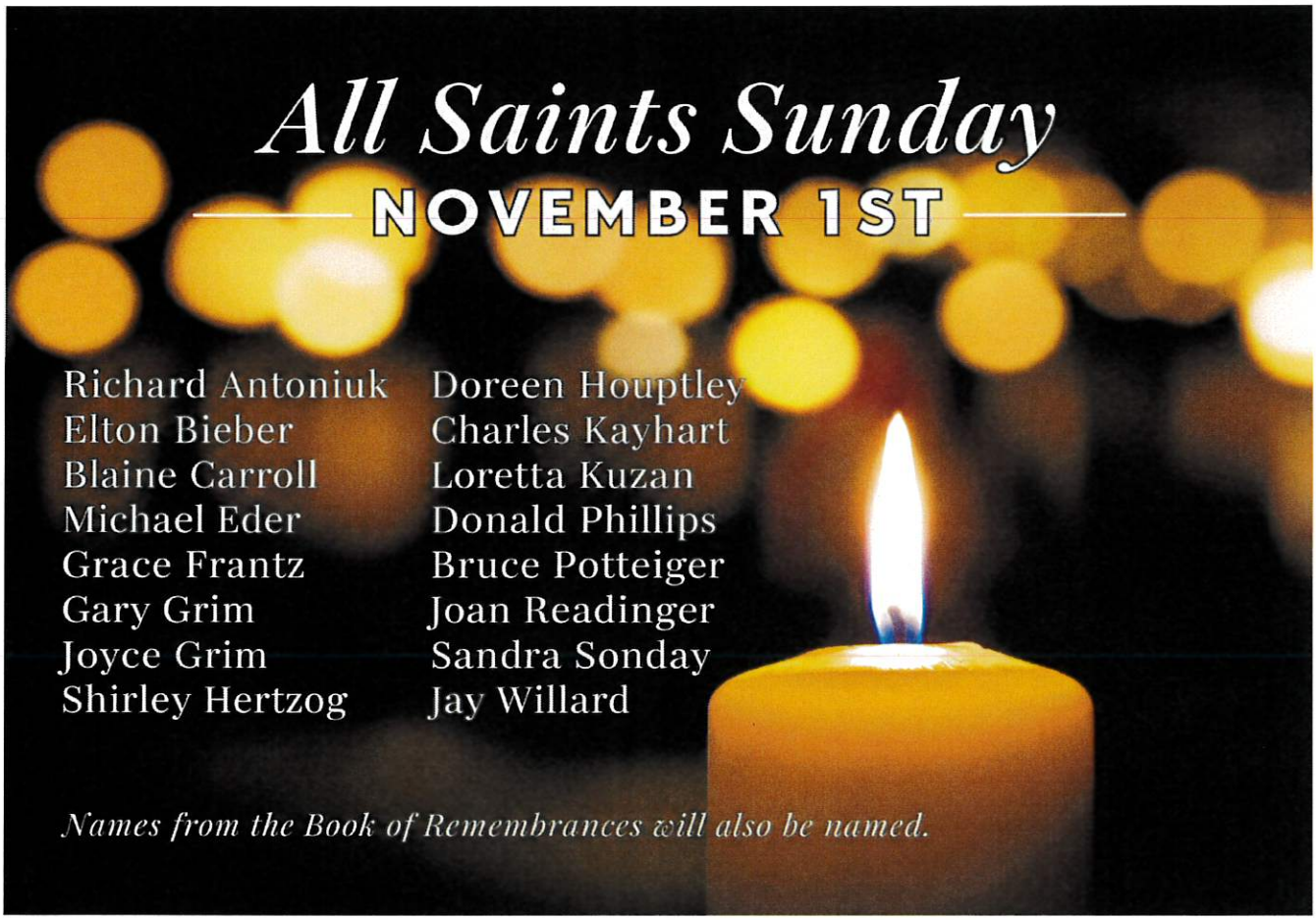
Serving:

Reader: Regina Sanders
Acolyte: Madison Stump
Usher: Grace Bohn
Altar Guild: Denise Williams, Ann Heinly
Communion: Lauren Mills, Bonny Mensch
Greeter: Powers family
Council: Phil Anzelmo, Craig Kemp

Recent Worship Attendance

October 2026

Date	In-Person	Online
10/04/2026	112	94
10/11/2026	102	93
10/18/2026	102	80
10/25/2026	136	



LUNCH BUNCH

Cristina's

Thursday, November 19

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

November 2026

Nov 3	Karen & Jack Bertolet
Nov 8	Beverly & Dale Leister
Nov 21	Marla Jo & Todd Frederick
Nov 28	Tina & Brett Fulton
	Ruth & Norman Sunday
Nov 29	Nancie & Ricky Keller
	Diane & Rick Nagel



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Nov 4	Brighton Reinert
	Jessica Engbert
	Lucas Fegely
Nov 7	LaRue Behm
	Terry Troop
	Allister Herman
Nov 8	Rochelle Miller
Nov 9	Rebecca Hohl
Nov 12	Dolores Dibler
	Bill Koch
	Moira MacLean
	Zane Deeter
Nov 13	Darla Day
	Timothy Haring
Nov 15	Kaye Sward
	Art Kayhart
	Guy Landis
	Andrew Gangawere
Nov 16	LeRoy Houptley
	Loni Boyer
	Cindy Blattenberger
Nov 18	Tim Sedler
	Virginia Baker
	Jeff Fox
	Ezrah Shreve
Nov 19	Joyce Grim
Nov 20	David Bloom
	Aaron Kramer
	Stacey Peifer
Nov 21	Neil Hohl
	Jarrid Dekovitch
Nov 22	Steve Strachan
Nov 23	Linda Troop
Nov 25	Patricia Kramer
Nov 27	Linette Davis
Nov 29	Virginia Reinhard
	Penny Ziegler
	Sue Trupp



HOLIDAY POINSETTIAS

orders due November 22

COST $9.50

GIVING *at a glance*

	Sept 2026	Sept 2025
Income	$21,495	$23,402
Expense	$24,378	$34,069
Difference	($2,883)	($10,667)

BECOME A *Member*

We welcome your participation in Christ Mertz's active and loving community of faith.

If you have questions about membership or joining church, contact Pastor Milne @ mamilne@gmail.com or 484.505.0987 (call or text) or christ@christmertz.org or call 610.682.7664.

HOLIDAY MEAL BOXES
Donations for Friend, Inc.

- 1 can sweet potatoes
- 1 can cranberry sauce
- 2 cans different vegetables
- Fruit juice
- Stuffing mix
- Apples or applesauce
- Potatoes — fresh, canned or mashed
- 1 can fruit cocktail
- Cookies
- Cocoa and/or coffee
- Holiday napkins



Each family will receive a turkey.

DONATIONS DUE SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15

Opportunity House Volunteers Needed

We have been scheduled to serve again for the following dates: **November 17 and December 15**, and we are looking for 4–6 volunteers to help.

Responsibilities include shopping, preparing, and serving a simple meal (fruit, pancakes, and sausage) with a total cost under $100. Receipts can be submitted for reimbursement or counted toward your giving.

If you're interested or would like more information, please see LuAnn Umberger at 610.780.2056



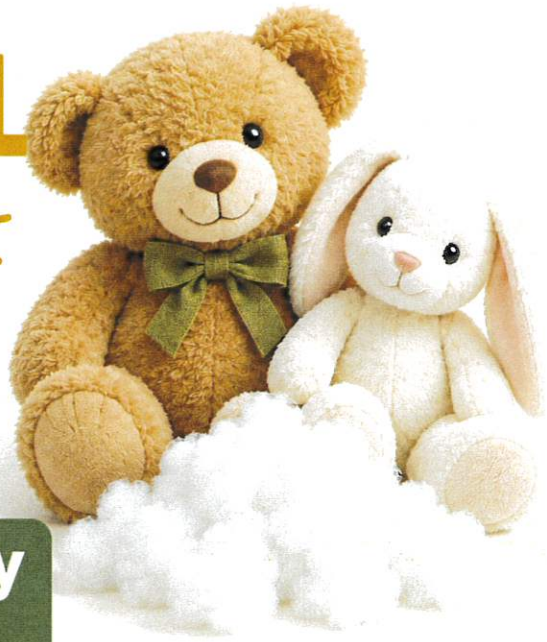






youth&family

HELP BRING A STUFFED ANIMAL TO LIFE!



Sunday, November 15
After worship
35 animals ready to be filled!

Donate craft stuffing by November 1


GLOW UP PARTY
Trunk or Treat
DANGER


Music SUNDAY

November 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Holy Communion **All Saints Sunday** 9:00AM Worship Service 9:15AM Sunday School 10:15AM Confirmation	2	3  	4 9:30AM Youth Meeting	5 9:00AM Soup making & Set up for Craft Fair 10:00AM Bible Study 6:30PM Choir 7:00PM Bible Study	6	7 CRAFT FAIR
8 Service of the Word **24th Sunday after Pentecost** 9:00AM Worship Service 9:15AM Sunday School 10:15AM Confirmation	9 5:30PM Finance	10	11	12 10:00AM Bible Study 5:30PM Worship & Music 6:30PM Choir 7:00PM Bible Study	13	14
15 Holy Communion **25th Sunday after Pentecost** 9:00AM Worship Service 9:15AM Sunday School 10:15AM Confirmation Animal Stuffing Project	16 7:00AM Council	17	18	19 10:00AM Bible Study 12:30PM Lunch Bunch 6:30PM Choir 7:00PM Bible Study	20	21 Sequence Game Night
22 Holy Communion **Christ the King** 9:00AM Worship Service 9:15AM Sunday School 10:15AM Confirmation	23 5:30PM CCCC Fire Safety Training	24	25 7:00PM Thanksgiving Community Service @ St. Paul's, Mertztown	26 	27	28
29 Holy Communion **1st Sunday of Advent** 9:00AM Worship Service 9:15AM Sunday School 10:15AM Confirmation	30			**Christ Mertz Lutheran Church** 16 Fleetwood Road ✠ Fleetwood PA ✠ 19522 office: 610.682.7664 ✠ email: christ@christmertz.org **The Rev. Martin A. Milne**		

HOLIDAY POINSETTIAS *for Christmas!*

Colors available:
Red, White, Pink, Glitter

Cost $9.50 for 6 1/2" pot

Please fill out the form and place it in the offering basket or contact June Heller.

Name _____

Color _____ Qty: _____

In memory of:

_____

_____

_____

In honor of:

_____

_____

_____

Deadline to order is November 22

November 2026

A season of thanks & giving



VOLUME 16 / ISSUE 1

A warm welcome!

Welcome **Caroline DeTurk** to our Infant Room.
We're so glad you're part of our CCCC family!

Donations needed

Help stock our classrooms with snacks and everyday essentials.

Wish list
Syrup • applesauce • Wheat Thins
Teddy Grahams • Goldfish
Pudding • Doritos • Cheez-It
Lysol disinfectant spray

Drop off: CCCC box
at the coat racks

Thrivent members: Give a little joy

Have an Action Team project left for 2026? Help support the Children's Center this Christmas.

Contact Mike to learn how to put your project to work for CCCC.

mikearndt@aol.com

So much to be thankful for.



For helping our children learn, grow, and feel loved: thank you, CCCC family!

Our parents
For your trust and for sharing your children with us.

Our amazing staff
For the care, dedication, and love you give each day.

Angie, Margie & Bonnie
For keeping CCCC running smoothly.

Stef
For your warm welcome and helping hands in our classrooms.

Pastor Milne
For your leadership, encouragement, and support.

Christ Mertz Congregation
For embracing CCCC and supporting this ministry.