



Christ Ascension Lutheran Church

THE DOVE

Sharing the Good News at CALC

November 2011

FROM PASTOR LOHRMANN...

November begins with endings and ends with beginnings. November 1st is All Saints Day, when we remember those who have died in Christ. This year on All Saints Sunday, we will ring the bell for our beloved George and David, as well as all we have loved who now live forever in God.

The Bible readings during worship also have “endings” as their theme. They invite us to think about ultimate things: how we treat each other, how we stand before God, how much we rely upon Christ, our merciful and gracious judge. The church year ends with Christ the King Sunday (Nov. 20), as we celebrate the one Lord of our life, Jesus Christ, a king who gives himself to serve and to save his people.

These first three Sundays in November will also be “Stewardship Sundays.” All

of our Christian education classes will be learning about stewardship. Each Sunday in worship will include an opportunity to give your pledge for 2012.

We are very close to funding our mission with a balanced budget! With a little more education, intentional thinking and prayerful giving, I am confident that we will not only meet our current budget but will grow in service and outreach. Be sure to see the stewardship pledge form attached to this newsletter.

Please think seriously about your offerings to church. If possible, challenge yourself to give more. If that will not work financially, then you might consider other ways to add to the ministry here and to share what God has first given us.

Finally, November ends

with a beginning. The first Sunday of Advent is November 27. On that day, we return to first things: expectation and hope. When we look for the coming Messiah, God promises that we will find him. The month ends with us once again “preparing the way of the Lord” in our lives.

Be sure to read this newsletter and visit the church website to keep up with everything that’s happening at church in the coming weeks.

God bless,
Pastor Martin Lohrmann



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Ways to Practice Good Stewardship

- Give thanks for everything God has given you
- Come to Adult Forums to talk about stewardship
- Think of creative ways to give back to your church and your community
- Evaluate your finances to see what a good giving level is for you or your family

ADVENT IS ON THE WAY!

On Wednesday evenings in Advent, join us at 7 pm for music, devotions and prayer. If you are interested in helping with any service by serving as a musician or worship leader, contact Jessica Hahn. Services will be held on Nov. 30, Dec. 14, and Dec. 21. **Please note** that there will be no service on Dec. 7. Join us instead on Tuesday, Dec. 6 for a St. Nicholas Day celebration and Advent Vespers.



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION



Faith and Life Bible Study Series:

As you prepare for your day, join Jessica Hahn on

Wednesday mornings in November for a 30-minute study about issues related to our faith as Christians and how it is relevant in our daily lives. We will meet in the church at 8am on Wednesday, November 2, 9, and 16. Stop by on your way to work for a cup of coffee and fruitful conversation!

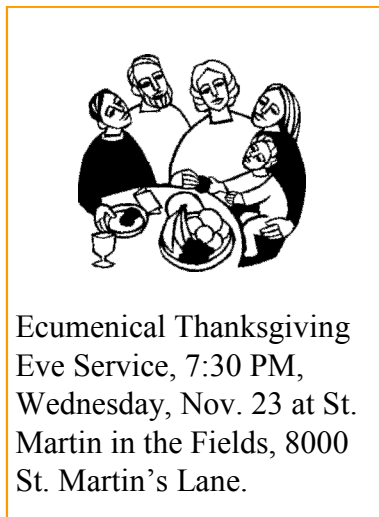
Sunday School News:

We have begun an exciting year of Sunday school! This year we are learning about “people of faith”, and in November we will focus on the story of the Widow’s Offering and stewardship. Field Education Student Amanda Joy Bernecker will be leading the children in stories and exciting activities. Beginning on November 27th, Sara Calderón will begin the Advent season by teaching children about Jesus and John the Baptist. Children ages 4-12 are invited to join us to learn about the Bible in fun and exciting ways! We hope to see you there!

Youth Group and Adult Forum:

Stewardship is the theme for Christian education in November. Gordon Lathrop and Sara Calderon will lead our discussions in these weeks. Come learn about how stewardship can be a way of life and a rich spiritual practice.

Reminder: all youth—confirmed and not-yet-confirmed—are invited to join the Youth Group.



Ecumenical Thanksgiving Eve Service, 7:30 PM, Wednesday, Nov. 23 at St. Martin in the Fields, 8000 St. Martin’s Lane.



SAINT NICHOLAS DAY

St. Nicholas was a Christian bishop who lived in Asia Minor in the 4th century. Over the centuries, he is remembered for his strong faith and his great generosity to those in need.

Come celebrate St. Nicholas Day on Tuesday, December 6. At 6 pm in Kimes Hall, we will enjoy an “Old World” style dinner, including sausages, German noodles, and apple cider. During that hour, there will be a fun activity for families and people of all ages.

Later that evening, we will move to the sanctuary to enjoy Advent Vespers, a musical service led by our choir.

To learn more or help volunteer, please contact Pastor Lohrmann.

PICK UP AND READ: BOOK DISCUSSION

The next book discussion will be about *Create Dangerously—The Immigrant Artist at Work* by Edwidge Danticat. *Create Dangerously* is part memoir, part profiles of courageous people who stood up to oppression, and part meditation on being Haitian, the immigrant experience, the plight of the artist,

and the nature of creativity. This is also the 2012 selection for “One Book, One Philadelphia.”

No date has been set for the discussion yet. All are invited to come join the conversation!



Thanks to Martha Reumann for hosting the October discussion of the book *Tattoos on the Heart* by Gregory Boyle.

CALC CONCERT SERIES:

Wilby!

Wilby is a band led by our own Kate and Bina Maurer. They will be performing here on **Sunday, November 6 at 3 PM.** They play great original alternative rock. The \$5 admission will be going to the church, to help us maintain our buildings.

Come and hear some great music, support the band and help the church!

Tell your friends!

SINGERS AND MUSICIANS

We're approaching Advent and Christmas. Special music is being planned for Advent Vespers (Dec. 6) and Christmas Eve. If you'd like to sing with the choir, or have some special instrumental or vocal music to offer, please contact me and join in the festivities!

Choir practice is on Sunday mornings at 9 AM. Other special practice times can be arranged as needed.

See me after church on Sundays or email me at lfuria@aol.com.

Linda Furia, Cantor

ADVENT VESPERS



Our choir will lead great singing and worship on Tuesday, December 6 in the sanctuary, beginning at 7 pm.

NURSERY CARE DURING WORSHIP 1ST & 3RD SUNDAYS

Christ Ascension is providing nursery care in the parish hall for children ages 1-4 years during the worship service on the 1st and 3rd Sunday mornings of each month.

Emily Brown (high school junior) is our regular caregiver. Additionally, the church nursery will be staffed by one adult church member volunteer and sometimes an additional youth volunteer.

The Church Nursery is located in the parish building in the room behind the kitchen on the main floor. Please note that children may also be supervised by the nursery caregivers in the parish hall or in the fenced in playground in the back of



the church property when the weather is nice outside.

As always, children are welcome to full participation in worship every Sunday. Parents are welcome to bring their children to the worship service for communion (or any other part of the service) even when using the nursery care. Please remember to sign your children in and out of nursery care in the sign-in book. Thank you!

Please contact Carrie Lohrmann, the church nursery coordinator, at carrieloehrmann@gmail.com for more information.

GERMANTOWN AVENUE LUTHERAN PARISH

Germantown Avenue Lutheran Parish (GALP)
God's Work, Our Avenue

GALP Calendar:

Trinity's 175 th Anniversary	November 13 th , from 11-2
Monthly meeting	November 15th, 7pm @ Trinity
Guest Lecturer, David Beckmann	
<i>President, Bread for the World</i>	February 7th, 11:30 am @LTSP

Recurring Events—Check 'em out!


Free Community Meal @ St. Michael's	Every Saturday 11-1
Rejoicing Spirits @ Trinity	Every 2 nd Sat., 4pm

13th Annual Empty Bowl Dinner

to benefit Northwest Philadelphia Interfaith Hospitality Network

Thursday, November 17, 2011

4:30-8:30 pm



Chestnut Hill College — Sorgenti Arena
Germantown Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19118

Adult: \$15
Children/Students: \$6

Special Dinner Host: Mike McGrath of WHYY's "You Bet Your Garden"



FOOD BASKETS FOR LUTHERAN SETTLEMENT

Christ Ascension and our Child Care Center have been loyal supporters of Lutheran Settlement House for many years, and the Thanksgiving baskets are a long tradition for us. This particular year the act of sharing a festival of thanks for the abundance of the harvest with so many people who are living in scarcity and lack of basic necessities is more relevant than ever. Once more we are asking you to show your gratitude and generosity by bringing seasonal thanksgiving items to church.

Those who are interested in donating turkeys can do so by bringing \$25 gift cards from your favorite grocery store.

Food items being collected are:

- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| Canned pumpkin | Mashed Potatoes |
| Cranberry sauce | Stuffing mix |
| Canned veggies | Corn bread mix |
| Gravy mix | \$25 Gift Card* |

**Please leave gift cards in the church office.*

All donations should be in church by Sunday, November 6 or in the office by Friday, November 11 @ 10 a.m. if you can't bring items to church.

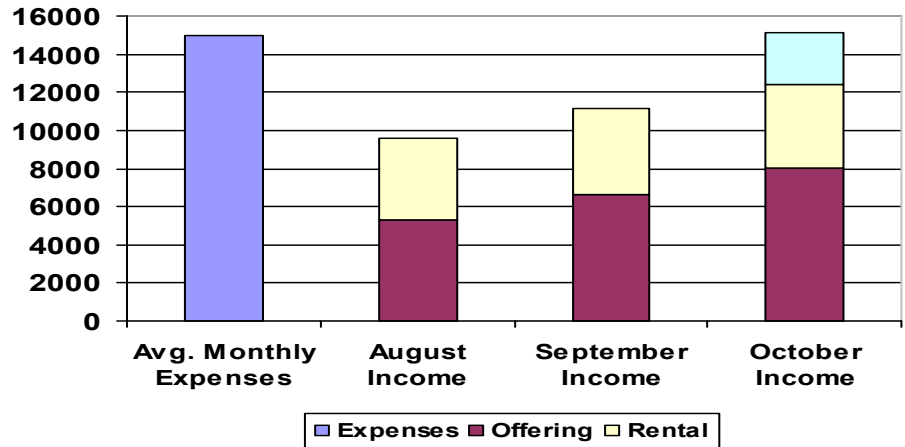
FINANCIAL TIMES AT CALC....

Pledges for 2012 will be collected during worship on Nov. 6, 13 & 20. Please prayerfully consider how you can support your church in the coming year. Pledge forms are available in worship and as an attachment here.

You might want to sign up for electronic giving. Christ Ascension relies on weekly offerings from the congregation. Electronic giving offers an easy way to give on a recurring basis. Please contact the church office for details and an enrollment form. Thank you!

*“God loves a cheerful giver”
(2 Cor. 9:7)*

Note: \$3,500 was transferred from savings to pay expenses last month.



Avg. Monthly Expenses: \$15,000

Offering:

Rental Income:

Fundraising

	Aug	Sept	Oct.
Offering:	\$5,293	\$6,623	\$8,024
Rental Income:	\$4,281	\$4,550	\$4,360
Fundraising			\$2,758

SPAGHETTI DINNER THANKS

Thank you to each of you for your donations of food, beverages, paper goods, sale items, talents, ticket sales, decorations, ideas, and the time spent helping before, during, and after for the 150th CALC Anniversary Spaghetti Dinner! You made this event one for our church to be proud of.

Some highlights:

- Advanced ticket sales: \$1,125
- Door ticket sales: \$1,293 (includes extra donations)
- 50/50 Raffle: \$132
- Standard Time CD sales: \$80
- CALC book sales: \$70
- Total: \$2,700
- As close as can be determined, attendance was approximately 165 persons — *many guests and visitors!*
- The church received an honorable citation from the City of Philadelphia
- Great music by Standard Time



Our goals for the dinner were to:

- Celebrate our church’s 150th Anniversary
- Spread the good word about our church
- Bring the community together for an evening of fun, fellowship, & food
- Conduct a fundraiser for our church

We hope you join us in feeling that all of you made these goals a realization. Our sincere thanks for all you did,
Myron and Jane Hallock



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS!

- 4—Harry Mann
- 10—Judy Gramby
- 11—Celia O’Leary, Susan Marshall
- 13—Beryl Evans, Gabriella Hahn
- 14—Beth Cammarata,
Clara Whitelaw Singer
- 17—Kai Heen
- 22—Myron Hallock
- 25—Stephen Hatzai

If we don’t have your birthday information and you would like it listed, please contact the office.

SILVER SPRINGS—MARTIN LUTHER SCHOOL

This year we will provide gifts and stocking stuffers to children in need at Silver Springs—Martin Luther School located in Plymouth Meeting. Below is a sample of requested gifts. The full list is included as a flyer in this newsletter.

WISH GIFTS:

- Radio controlled cars or trucks (radio remote please; no wires)
- Basketballs and footballs
- Race track sets for Matchbox/



Hot Wheels cars

- Novelty fleece blankets
- Jigsaw puzzles (100-1000 pieces)

STOCKING STUFFERS:

- Washable markers
- Journals
- Plastic sunglasses
- Football and baseball cards
- Gloves (not mittens)

A collection box is located in Kimes Hall.



Deadline for gifts is Thursday, December 1.

HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE

The purpose of the Hospitality Committee is to organize the people of Christ Ascension in welcoming, connecting, and promoting fellowship with visitors and congregational members.

We need your eyes, ears, thoughts, and voice! Join or just visit the Hospitality Committee as we meet one evening each month at 8 p.m. in Kimes Hall. Please see the church newsletter, calendar, and website for meeting dates.

Every time we meet, we talk, share, work, and find ways to make little inviting changes around the church buildings.

In October, we updated and completed the parish hall bulletin boards with headings, borders, and a revised layout while we discussed hospitality ideas for 2011-2012. In November and December, we'll focus on being welcoming for Christian Education, holiday events, and worship.

If you have a gift for greeting, advertisement, organizing, preparing appetizers or baking, communication, noticing "the little things," or just want to help in welcoming people to church, please join us; contact Carrie Lohrmann at carriehohrmann@gmail.com or 215-510-5649.

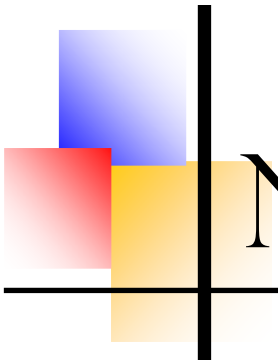
A few weeks ago, a church member approached me with a great idea for hospitality. If you have any idea, please do the same! Speak with me in person at church or send me an e-mail. A group focused on hospitality can ALWAYS benefit from the perspective of new members and visitors.

"Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it." Hebrews 13:2

God's blessings,
Carrie Lohrmann

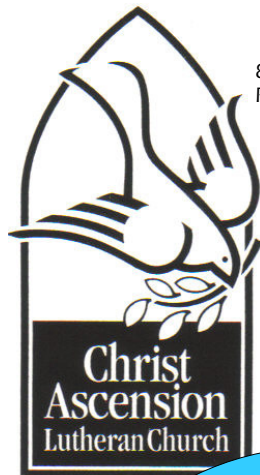
Anniversary Book

The Anniversary Book is available for purchase. The history is a wonderful record of faith and action in Philadelphia over 150 years, including photographs and graphics, and about 60 "faith stories." The book costs \$35/copy (3 for \$100).



NOVEMBER 2011

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 8:00 p.m. Hospitality Committee	2 8:00 a.m. Faith & Life Bible Study	3 7:00 p.m. AA Meeting	4	5
<i>Daylight Savings Ends</i> 6 9:00 Choir Practice 9:15 Christian Ed. 10:30 a.m. Worship 3 p.m. WILBY Concert	7 12 noon Elder Diner	8 6:00 p.m. Child Care Comm	9 8:00 a.m. Faith & Life Bible Study	10 7:00 p.m. AA Meeting	11 Food Drive Ends	12
13 9:00 Choir Practice 9:15 Christian Ed. 10:30 a.m. Worship	14 12 noon Elder Diner 7:00 p.m. Church Council	15 7:00 p.m. GALP Meeting @ Trinity	16 8:00 a.m. Faith & Life Bible Study	17 7:00 p.m. AA Meeting	18 6:30 p.m. Chestnut Hill Tree Lighting Ceremony @ CALC	19
20 9:00 Choir Practice 9:15 Christian Ed. 10:30 a.m. Worship	21 12 noon Elder Diner	22	23 7:30 p.m. Thanksgiving Worship @ St. Martin's	 24 Thanksgiving Holiday	25	26
27 9:00 Choir Practice 9:15 Christian Ed. 10:30 a.m. Worship	28 12 noon Elder Diner	29	30 7 p.m. Advent Worship			



CHRIST ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH

8300 Germantown Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19118

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www.christascension.org

A congregation of the ELCA

Make ChristAscension.org Your Home

The congregation has a new website. By making it your homepage, you can see updated events and info. Visit us online at www.christascension.org and on facebook: Christ Ascension Lutheran Church – Chestnut Hill

*Christ Ascension:
A Church United in Faith, Hope and Love*
Sunday Schedule:

Christian Education: 9:15 a.m.

Holy Communion: 10:30 a.m.

*Nursery care is available in the parish hall
on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month*

CALC CONCERT SERIES:

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