

Staff Support

This committee seeks to promote the ministry that needs to occur between the pastor and other paid personnel and the congregation, and is responsible for communicating with all staff persons, with individual members, groups, or organizations, or with the entire congregation regarding needs, concerns, expectations, and evaluations of work and/or ministry. The committee provides for conferences with all staff persons at least one time each year, in the month of September. The primary concerns of this committee are as follows: The evaluation of work/ministry; working conditions; personal growth; financial support; in-staff working relationships; conflict management; and the testing of new forms of work/ministry.

Worship and Music

This committee assists the Congregation Council in assuring that the worship of the congregation is conducted regularly and in accordance with the liturgies of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, that competent acolytes, worship assistants, and greeter/ushers are recruited and trained, and that worship books and other devotional materials are provided and properly cared for. This committee shall supervise and strive to advance the welfare and effective service of the choir(s) and the music ministry of the congregation. It shall arrange for the proper care of payments, appointments, vestments, and musical instruments, and, in consultation with the pastor, the organist, and the choir director(s), it shall provide sheet music and worship/music equipment appropriate for use in the worship of a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

- **Altar Guild** – serve out of gratitude to Christ and his unconditional love. Members prepare and care for items used in the worship services and Holy Communion. Members of the altar guild ministry group complete many tasks behind the scene to help prepare for services. These tasks include: cleaning the altar area and the linens, marking the lectern bible for lesson readers, cleaning and filling the candles, and preparing for the communion meal.
- **Communion Server** - Assist the pastor in serving communion.

- **Usher** - Ushers help to keep the worship service running smoothly. They hand out bulletins at the door, collect the offering, and dismiss pews to receive communion as well as hand out and collect communion cups.
- **Lector** - Lectors read two lessons and a psalm at the pulpit during Sunday worship service.
- **Sr. Bell Choir** – This choir provides hand bell music at various times throughout the year. Practices are held Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.
- **Senior Choir** - Senior Choir sings an offertory anthem each Sunday and provides musical leadership during worship service. Practices are on Wednesday evenings from 7:30 to 8:30. All are welcome.
- **Sound System** - These trained individuals run the sound system each week during worship. They are also responsible for setting up microphones and sound system at other church events. Anyone is welcome to become trained on the sound system.
- **Youth Worship Participants** - Beginning in grade 4, children may serve as acolytes during worship service. Torch Bearer begins at grade 6 and Crucifer begins at grade 9.

Church Council

The church council has general oversight of the life and activities of this congregation--from financial and property matters, to working with staff support in all employment matters, to conducting two congregational meetings with the people. The Council monitors the worship life of this congregation to the end that everything be done in accordance with the Word of God and the faith and practice of the ELCA. Church Council also oversees the following:

- **Church Constitution** - This committee works on the constitution of the congregation to bring it to accordance with the ELCA.
- **Ad Hoc Committees (2)** – nominating committee which will seek out candidates for church council and the audit committee which check the financial health of the congregation

Youth

This committee promotes fellowship and education opportunities for the youth of the congregation.

Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church Milton, Pennsylvania



Ministry Groups

Simply put . . . a ministry is a way of serving and caring for others in Christ's name . . . the responsibilities and work that God commits to believers in Christ, each according to a person's gifts and talents, time and energy, in the service of others. This work is done out of love and gratitude to God for what he has done for us in Christ. This brochure outlines the ministry groups at Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church

Christian Education

Along with the pastor, the Christian Education Ministry Group oversees Sunday School and all the educational activities within the congregation.

Included are:

- Sunday School
- Annual Advent Pageant
- Vacation Bible School
- Bible Study
- Growing Disciples
 - Baptism
 - Beginning Sunday School
 - Beginning First Grade
 - 1st Communion
 - Beginning Acolyte
 - Beginning Confirmation
 - Confirmation
 - High School Graduation

Witness

Witness ministry leads this congregation in witnessing to the gospel of Jesus Christ to people who are not active members of a Christian congregation, to support the faith development of members, and to increase the membership of this congregation with Christ's help. Included in the Witness ministry group are:

- Prayer Team Ministry--is a response to the gift of prayer that God has given to us as his children and as the church and gives us an opportunity to intentionally seek God's will and advance the power of prayer in our congregation. Members of this ministry volunteer to pray in the church on Sunday morning before worship service, praying for those who will be attending worship as well as for the choir, the organist, the minister, and those assisting with the service that morning.
- Prayer Chain--this phone ministry is a list of people who offer intercessory prayer when called.
- Weekly Worship Prayers--members of this ministry write the prayers of the church for Sunday morning and other special worship services.

- Homebound Communion--once a month, this group delivers the holy supper to members who are homebound. There are currently three teams who serve in this capacity.
- Friendship Ministry--seeks to provide intentional as well as continuous contact and support for all congregational members. This ministry is a way for lay people to share God's love through contact, listening, and encouraging one another. Members of this group send birthday cards, get-well cards, or just kind words to members of our congregation. They also make it a point to talk with members to promote overall friendliness within the congregation.

Hospitality

This ministry coordinates various fellowship meals within our congregation, including potluck dinners, special activity meals, and meals for families after funerals or for those who have other special needs.

Property

This committee strives to assure the proper maintenance and protection of all the congregation's properties, facilities, furnishings, and equipment.

Social

This committee works to stimulate and lead all members of the congregation in continuous endeavors to reawaken the spiritually indifferent and to reach others, who are as yet unwon, with the Gospel and invite them to become a part of the assembly of believers, Christ's Church. This committee devotes itself to deepening spiritual life, and to extend Christian compassion and helpfulness to the ill, the aged, the orphaned, the underprivileged, the imprisoned, and in general, to all persons in need of aid in body or soul.

Finance

The finance ministry group prepares a draft budget for each succeeding year and submits the draft budget to the Congregation Council for its action and subsequent presentation to the congregation at a legally called and conducted special congregational meeting in the month of November. This committee oversees all the financial affairs of the congregation to assure that they are being conducted efficiently, giving particular attention to the prompt payment of all obligations and to the regular forwarding of benevolence monies to the treasurer of the synod. It also provides for annual audits of the accounts of the treasurer (or secretary-treasurer) and the financial secretary, as well as of the accounts of the school(s) and organizations within the congregation. This committee also promotes the expression of Christian faith in daily living; to teach the Christian use of money; to diffuse knowledge of the congregation's local, national, and worldwide ministries; and to lead all members of the congregation to higher levels of proportionate giving for the work of our Lord.

Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Mission Statement:

**We are called by God
to follow Christ's example and teachings
by worshiping, witnessing, learning,
supporting one another, and reaching out
to others.**

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