Longswamp United Church of Christ
November 15, 2026 ~ 10:15 am

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Hospital Code 451 CCLI #2341826
Facebook page: **Longswamp UCC** Wi-Fi Guest Password: Christ200
Rev. Kimberly Berenotto, Pastor
Ministry Partners: Head Usher, Greeter- Bob Friedly Reader- Jill Shade

**Indicates to rise as you are able in body and spirit.*

MUSIC PREPARES US FOR WORSHIP

RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELLS

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

***CALL TO WORSHIP**
Leader: The time for harvest is close at hand.
People: God calls us to gather the gifts we have grown.
Leader: What have we done with the gifts God has given us?
People: We have brought our gifts to the house of the Lord.
Leader: Praise God for these gifts!
People: Praise God for the opportunities for service these gifts represent.
Leader: Praise God for these gifts!
People: Praise God for all the ways in which our lives have been blessed.
Leader: Generous God, accept our gifts and our lives this day.
People: Loving God, accept our worship and praise. Amen.

HYMN** ***Great is Thy Faithfulness ***#60***

CALL TO CONFESSION

CONFESSION
All: God, forgive us when we do not invest your gifts wisely. Too often we have been negligent with the time and energy you give us - spending it all on ourselves while others are in-need. We confess, O Lord, that through fear, greed, or ignorance, we have not always used our blessings in responsible ways. Have mercy on us. When we are satisfied with sharing little and preserving much for ourselves, direct us away from our human desires and toward your spirit of generosity and abundance. Forgive us for when we have buried the talents you provide and forget the purpose of your blessings. Amen.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

ASSURANCE OF PARDON
Leader: God is gracious and forgiving; reaching toward us to make us whole.
People: Thanks be to God for the new life and forgiveness we find through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

***PASSING THE PEACE**
Leader: The peace of Christ be with you. **People: And also with you.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE
All children are welcome to come forward for the Children's Message. Today is a Family Communion Sunday so everyone stays in church together! Kids are welcome to sit with their families or engage in worship and some extra activities from our Prayground.

Sacrament of Baptism: Chance Levi Strunk

WELCOME & ADDRESS
Leader: Members and friends in Christ, we gather now to celebrate the gift of grace in the sacrament of baptism.
People: There is one body and one Spirit. There is one hope in God's call to us.
Leader: There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Creator of us all. The sacrament of baptism is an outward and visible sign of the grace of God. Inasmuch as the promise of the gospel is not only to us but also to our children, baptism with water and the Holy Spirit is the mark of their acceptance into the care of Christ's church, the sign and seal of their participation in God's forgiveness, and the beginning of their growth into faith and discipleship.
People: This is the water of baptism. Out of this water we rise with new life, one in Christ's body.

QUESTIONS TO THE PARENTS

QUESTIONS TO THE GODPARENTS

CONGREGATIONAL AFFIRMATIONS
Leader: Do you promise your love, support, and care for the one about to be baptized today as they live and grow in Christ?
People: We promise our love. We promise our support. We promise our care.

PRAYER OVER THE WATER

ACT OF BAPTISM

BAPTISMAL RESPONSE ***Tune: Stuttgart/Words: Cole-Turner***
Child of blessing, child of promise, baptized with the Spirit's sign.
With this water God has sealed you, unto love and grace divine.

PRAYER FOR THE BAPTIZED

BAPTISMAL BENEDICTION
Leader: Go now baptized into new life, and growing together as a family in Christ.
People: Thanks be to God! Amen.

HYMN** ***All Things Are Yours ***#657***

RESPONSIVE READING (BASED ON PSALM 24:1-6)
Leader: The earth is the Lord's and everything in it.
People: The world is the Lord's and all who live in it.
Leader: For God founded the earth on the seas.
People: The Lord established the world on the waters.
Leader: Who may ascend the mountain of the Lord and stand in his holy place?
People: Those who have clean hands and a pure heart; who do not trust in idols or false Gods.
Leader: For they will receive blessings from God, their Savior.
People: They are the people who seek God's face.

SCRIPTURE READING Matthew 25:14-30

SERMON "Growing God's Gifts" Pastor Kim

Sacrament of Holy Communion

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

COMMUNION PRAYERS
Leader: God be with you.
People: And also with you.
Leader: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them up to God.
Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.
Leader: Almighty God, it is a good and joyful thing to give you thanks and praise. You formed us from the dust of the earth in your image, and entrusted the world to us - a world overflowing with your blessings. When we hid your gifts, you did not abandon us Lord, but sent Jesus to show us the ways of your abundant and generous kingdom. The Holy Spirit moves within and around us still today, inspiring us to continue to grow your blessings into time, talent, and treasure that serves God and others. So we lift our voices with servants, stewards, and saints in every time and place to sing your praise:

SUNG RESPONSE **#2**
Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
All thy works shall praise thy name, in earth, and sky, and sea.
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty!
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

REMEMBERING THE STORY
Leader: On the night before Jesus died, he gathered his friends……By eating this bread and drinking this cup we participate in the mystery of our faith:
People: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

LORD'S PRAYER
Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever, Amen.

SHARING THE MEAL

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING
All: Generous God, you have fed us at your table and entrusted us once more with your abundant gifts. Thank you for all we receive through eating and drinking this holy meal. May we be strengthened and nourished to never bury your treasure, but to be faithful stewards of your blessings. Amen.

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERING & MISSION MOMENT

***DOXOLOGY** **#809**
Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise God all creatures here below
Praise God above, you heavenly host: praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***OFFERING PRAYER OF DEDICATION**
All: Gracious Lord, there are no limits to the gifts you have given us. Now, we return thanks to you for the blessings you provide. We dedicate today's offering in your name and ask for your blessing on the givers and the gifts. Help the gifts, and us, be your witnesses throughout the world. Amen.

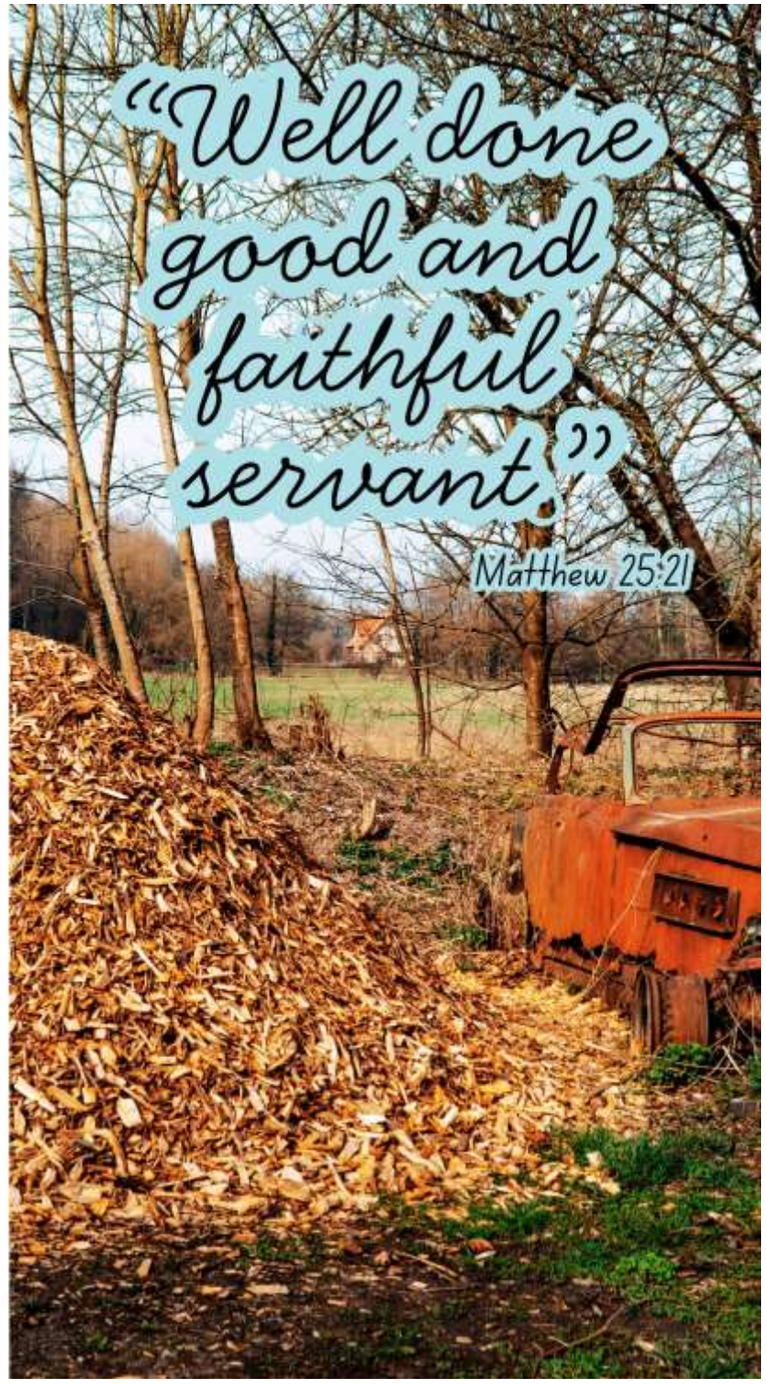
HYMN** ***Take My Life and Let It Be Consecrated ***#568***

BENEDICTION

CLOSING MUSIC *Lord Whose Love Through Humble Service* *Bayly*

Call to Worship and Offering Prayer adapted from this week's Worship Connection on Ministry Matters by Nancy C. Townlet. Confession adapted from prayer by Rev. Richard J. Fairchild.

LONGSWAMP UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



WELCOME TO LONGSWAMP UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST!

This is our Weekly Beacon- November 15th-21st, 2026

Thank you for worshiping with us this Sunday and sharing in Holy Communion. This morning we also celebrate the baptism of Chance Levi Strunk, child of Zachary Strunk and Jazemine Boyer, and brother to Eren Strunk. We welcome Chance's godparents, Nicholas Strunk and Lauren Weaver.

Please join us next week, November 22nd, at 10:15 am for our Thanksgiving Worship Service followed by our Congregational Meeting.

Sharing Our Faith

Please join us in the church next **Sunday, November 22, 2026, immediately after the worship service for our semi-annual Congregational Meeting**. The purpose of this meeting is to review and approve the annual budget of 2027 and elect the members who have agreed to serve our congregation in leadership roles on various Boards and committees.

Some upcoming important worship dates (all at 10:15am):

-**November 29th**- 1st Sunday of Advent

-**December 6th**- 2nd Sunday of Advent

-**December 13th**- 3rd Sunday of Advent, Christmas Play, "In A Galilee Far Far Away."

Thank you to everyone who helped out at yesterday's food sale! Thank you to everyone who baked, cooked, packed, or ran orders out to cars. Our volunteers always make the day go much more smoothly and without you, it would not be a success.

Teaching What We Believe

There will be no Children's Church today since it's a Holy Communion and Family Sunday. There are extra activities in the Prayground area for kids to enjoy. Children's Church will return next week during the worship service.

Acting on Jesus' Teachings

November 2026 - Local Mission - Let's share the **JOY of Christmas** with 20 residents of **Phoebe Allentown** and 4 youth at **Bethany Children's Home** in Womelsdorf by providing holiday presents for each of them.

1. **Christmas presents for 20 residents of Phoebe Allentown -** Please remember the following: 1) the suggested cost for each present is $20.00 or less; 2) put the presents in holiday gift bags; 3) tie the angel tag to the handles of the gift bag; 4) include a signed Christmas card (with the Phoebe Allentown resident's name and room number on the outside) in the gift bag; and 5) return the Christmas presents for the Phoebe Home residents to LUCC **no later than Sunday, November 29, 2026.**
2. **20 Christmas presents for youth residing at Bethany Children's Home (BCH)**- The angel tags and instruction sheets for the 20 Christmas presents for 4 youth, who reside at Bethany Children's Home, are ready for distribution today. Please remember the following: 1) include a gift receipt for the item you purchase; 2) place the Christmas present for a youth at BCH in a plastic bag and tie or staple the angel tag to it; 3) please DO NOT wrap the Christmas presents for the youth who reside at BCH; and 4) return the Christmas presents for the youth who reside at Bethany Children's Home to LUCC **no later than Sunday, December 6, 2026**.

Please contact Jill Shade (484-894-0636; jill.shade@longswampucc.org) if you have any questions and/or concerns about providing a Christmas present for one of the residents of Phoebe Allentown and/or a youth who resides at Bethany Children's Home.

Longswamp UCC Business

November newsletters are available in the narthex. Make sure to grab your copy to stay up to date with all the upcoming events that LUCC will be having!

We're always looking for readers and greeters! If you'd like to be a reader, please talk to Maggie and if you'd like to greet, please sign up on the date of your choice in the narthex!