

Christ Lutheran Church



Rooted in Christ for 100 years!

Come Celebrate With Us 100 Years of Faithful Ministry

Family and Friends of Christ Lutheran,

On January 1, 2008, Christ Lutheran will begin a year long celebration commemorating 100 years of ministry. We invite everyone to join with us during this joyful and faith-filled time. We have many events planned throughout the year where stories of past ministries, gatherings, fellowship and worship will be shared. It is during these times, when we gather together as a family, that we will surely hear about the many ways in which God has guided and blessed our congregation. For the stories of each generation of faithful followers adds a new chapter to the story of God's love for all.

Within the pages of this anniversary booklet the history of service to God and community can be viewed through the many pictures and stories. It's a history that began at the beginning of the 20th century where a group of German families filled with God's Spirit gathered together to worship each month in each others homes. For six long years these families prayed and searched for a way to build a community church here in the Elvaton area. Their prayers were answered when Christ Lutheran was officially founded and the first Sanctuary was built in 1908.

During these past 100 years many things have changed. The surrounding area once filled with family farms is now filled with subdivisions, shopping malls, and industrial parks. The dirt and gravel roads that crisscrossed the county have now given way to a multitude of highways and interstates. And the sky filled with kites and gentle breezes are now filled with jets landing and taking off from one of the busiest airports in the country. Many things have indeed changed, and yet one thing has survived the test of time. The desire and commitment to serve God and community is as strong today as it was 100 years ago here at Christ Lutheran.

It is our prayer that we may continue to follow in the footsteps of our brothers and sisters through faithful service, laying a foundation for the generations to come.

In Christ's service with you,

Pastor Jim

Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church History Established 1908

At the beginning of the 20th century something happened more important than just the passing of time. In the rural areas of Elvaton, Anne Arundel County, Maryland, several German speaking families, sensible of their spiritual needs, mindful of their Christian duties, in Jesus' name and with the hope of his blessings, gathered informally once a month in worship. They were united in the German language and a common vocation....farming God's good earth. Young and old they gathered in various homes.

During these formative years, the Rev. F. W. Lowenstein of St. Paul's-Curtis Bay served the group from 1902-1904 and from 1904-1908 the Rev. J. F. Muller of St. Marks Church, Broadway and Fairmount Avenue. After preaching in their own church, they would travel to Elvaton to share the word of the Lord, in German, with members of Christ Church.



The Rev. J. F. Muller served the congregation after a long trip from the city by the Short Line Railroad. He received for his services farm produce as expressions of gratitude from grateful people. Many of these people labored for ten and twelve hours a day without overtime pay for a straight ten cents an hour.

Pastor J. F. Muller organized Christ Lutheran Church in Elvaton and also St. Johns Lutheran Church in Ellicott City.

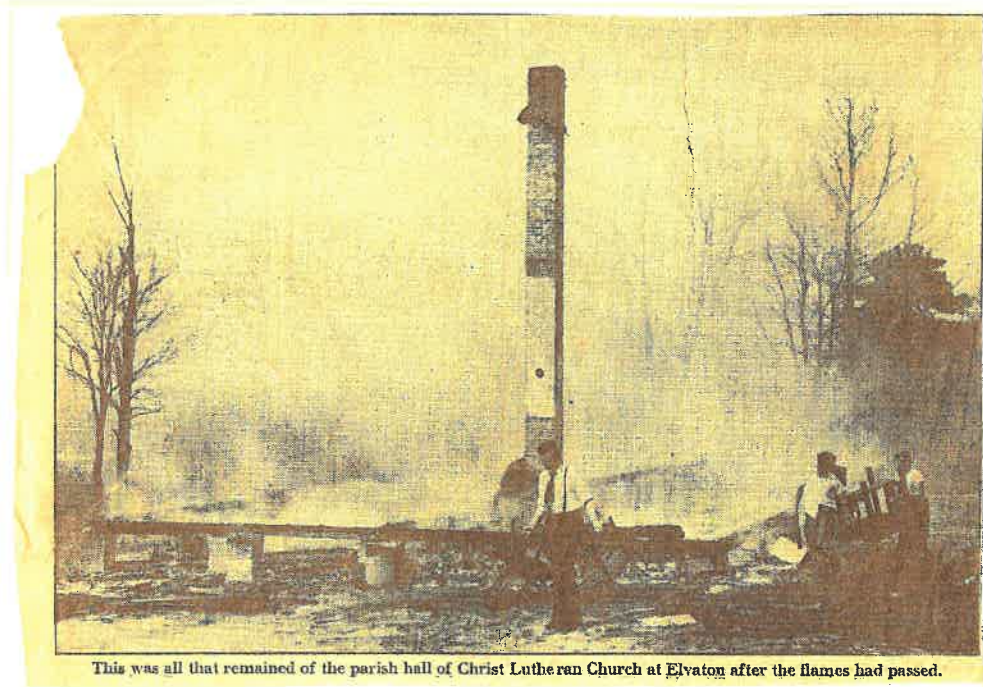
Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church was incorporated on April 13, 1908.

A new church was built and the cornerstone was laid on December 6, 1908 which is known as Listman Chapel today.

From the beginning until 1943, services were conducted alternately, in German and English. The last German service was held on Easter Sunday, 1943 by Rev. Ernest Schneppe.



After the first World War a large social hall 30' by 70' was built near the site of Friendship Hall for \$3,800.00. It was used for weddings, suppers, birthday parties, as well as Sunday School.



This was all that remained of the parish hall of Christ Lutheran Church at Elvaton after the flames had passed.

This hall was burnt to the ground in the great fire which swept Anne Arundel County April 21, 1941.

Following the fire, discussion was undertaken as to the need for a new building. On August 24, 1947 the bid was awarded to begin for \$13,200. The building was to have a basement, an auditorium, and to be 32' by 64'. On December 7, 1947 the cornerstone was laid. In the cornerstone was a lead box hermetically sealed.



That building is known today as Friendship Hall.

On March 13, 1949 the first full-time pastor, Rev. Calvert B. Love was installed. During his pastorate Rev. Love married Clara Klug of the congregation.



Considerable growth was attained both in Sunday School and church under Rev. Love's pastorate.

In August 1956 Rev. Love accepted a call to be Pastor of Old Saint Paul's Church, Newton, North Carolina.



In November 1956 Rev. Elmer L. Zick accepted the call to be Pastor of Christ Lutheran Church-Elvaton. He was installed by Vice President Herman C. Schulz of the Eastern District on December 9, 1956.



The property next to the church was purchased to build a new two story brick parsonage.



The new parsonage was dedicated on Sept. 8, 1963 and occupied by Pastor Zick and his family on Sept. 9, 1963.



The new church and educational wing was dedicated on September 26, 1965.

On Sunday, July 19, 1964 the congregation approved the plans to begin construction of a new \$73,900 church-educational unit. But more than buildings have occurred in those years. A new sense of purpose and urgency had arisen in the hearts of many. The unity of the Spirit has been maintained. The Word proclaimed. The Sacraments administered. Two spiritual life missions were held in addition to a teaching mission.

The years 1965-1979 were characterized by much transition. The Youth of the Church called the Teens for Christ was established under adult sponsors. The youths contributed much in such areas as CROPWALK for the Hungry, decoration of church buildings for Christmas, helping at picnics and completing many small tasks around the church. Active participation in Bible Study, fellowship programs, worship and parish life are still quite evident. A historical highlight was the surprise celebration of Rev. Zick's 20th Anniversary as Pastor in 1976 including a surprise dinner and the presentation of a new car to Pastor Zick.

The last Sunday of the year 1979 saw the burning of the mortgage.

The congregation was debt free as of January 1, 1980. A brief but important service was held by Pastor Zick, Deacon George Snyder and the Church Council, together with the congregation.

At the beginning of another decade, we continued to break ground for Christ's cause. We accepted great things from God and attempted great things for God.



Our seminary student Hank Flatt graduated from Trinity Lutheran Seminary in May of 1981.



On April 18, 1982 Hank Flatt was ordained in the Holy Ministry at Christ Church.



Rev. Guilford Flatt (Hank) accepted a call to the Ohio District, St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Oak Harbor.

In 1984, by the Grace of God, we celebrated our 75th year as a congregation.

An organ committee was formed and an Allen Digital Organ was selected and purchased. The new organ debt was paid off in six months.

Christ Lutheran Church held a reception in honor of



*Pastor Elmer L. Zick
and
Betty L. Zick
in their retirement after
36 years of dedicated
Christian Ministry
and Community Service
June 13, 1992*

In December 1986 Rev. Elmer L. Zick celebrated his 30 years of ministry at Christ Lutheran.

Modernization began in 1990. A new address list for Church, Sunday School and prospective members was completed. An electric typewriter and Sharp copier were purchased, a computerized financial system installed and lay readers were used in addition to the services of the Deacons.



Deacon Richard Davis, Rev. Elmer L. Zick and Deacon George Snyder

Plans were underway to gauge our weaknesses and strengths as a congregation, the needs of the new Pastor and Synod involvement in the call process. Pastor Zick preached his last sermon on June 22, 1992 and assisted in July at the installation of Pastor Cary Moorman.



Pastor Cary Moorman began his ministry at Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church in July, 1992. He brought and initiated several new ideas such as holding two Sunday services, traditional and contemporary, including processional Communion; having a weekly "Soup and Bread" get together followed by Bible Study. Pastor Cary initiated our first Autumn Fest in 1994 and the Passion Play in 1995. Pastor Cary was called to start a New Mission Church in Mount Airy in October, 1996.



In November, 1996 **Pastor Frank Lampe, III** became the Interim Minister for Christ Church. He was actively involved in the call process, reestablishing a stewardship drive, establishing unity through the history of the church and handling the daily needs of the church and congregation.





In 1998 we hired our first female Pastor. **Pastor Janice Marie Lowden** led the congregation for seven years. She arrived with the enthusiasm of the Holy Spirit and a voice like that of an angel to build the congregation up and reach out to all. Pastor JMe worked with the building committee to expand the current building to accommodate future growth. A new banquet hall to be added, new office for the secretary and the pastor, a sacristy and updated handicap approved bathrooms. Included in those plans were improvements to the existing Friendship Hall. A capital campaign was held and the congregation began with the renovations of Friendship Hall.

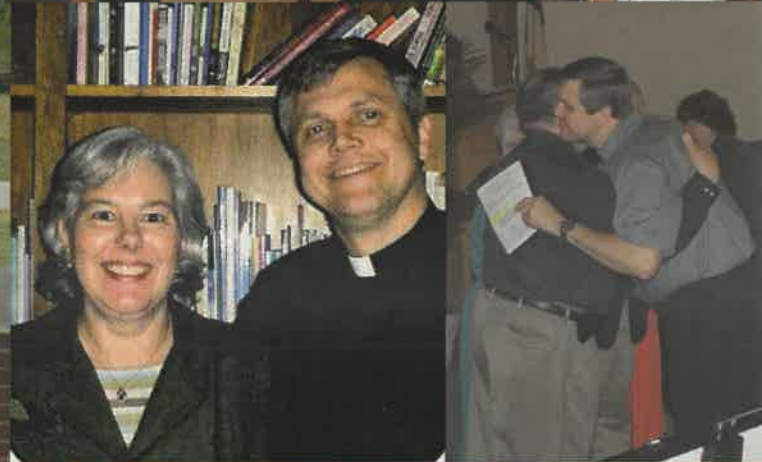


Friendship Hall was restored, updated, completed and rededicated on February 6, 2005.





Pastor James J. Wood began his ministry on December 24, 2005. He was called to our congregation because of his faithfulness to serve, love of scripture, teaching abilities and caring of all people. We look forward to a long relationship with Pastor Jim and his wife, Candi.



As our growth continues our *Groundbreaking Service* was held on *May 20, 2007* with Bishop Knoche, Pastor Jim Wood and Pastor Emeritus Elmer L. Zick. It was followed by a luncheon. The contract was awarded and work began on July 1, 2007.



Truly we can go on the way rejoicing as we see where God has led us. As we look to the past and appreciate the sacrifice, love and labor shared in the ministry, together we are also given the forward thrust to reach out and dare great things for God for another 100 years.



*Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church
is
a community of believers in GOD,
Rooted in CHRIST,
Sowing the seeds of faith,
Growing in the HOLY SPIRIT,
Praising the Light of the LORD,
Reaching out to all, making
CHRIST known!*

Pastors serving Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church

Rev. F. W. Lowenstein	1902-1904	Rev. John Houck	Supply Pastor
Rev. J. F. Mueller	1904-1908	Rev. Otto Senft	1948-1949
Rev. E. T. Butz	1908-1911	Rev. Calvert Love	1949-1956
Rev. Hartlage	1911-1912	Rev. Elmer Zick	1956-1992
Rev. E. T. Butz	1913-1922	Rev. Cary Moorman	1992-1996
Rev. E. Kittel	1923-1930	Rev. Frank P. Lampe, III	1996-1997
Rev. PFC Schnizler	1931-1942	Rev. Janice Marie Lowden	1998-2004
Rev. Ernest Schneppe	1943-1947	Rev. James J. Wood	2005-Present
Rev. Valentine Weissert	Supply Pastor		

Our First Vacation Bible School



Vacation Bible School Today



History of Listman Chapel



In the front of Listman Chapel is a painting of Christ by Anton Schmidt



This chandelier was given to the first church of 1908 by St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Curtis Bay.

As time went by it was converted from kerosene oil to electricity.

It still hangs today in the Listman Chapel which is the first Church of 1908.



Confirmation

1930's



1970's



1940's



1980's



1950's



1990's



1960's



2000's



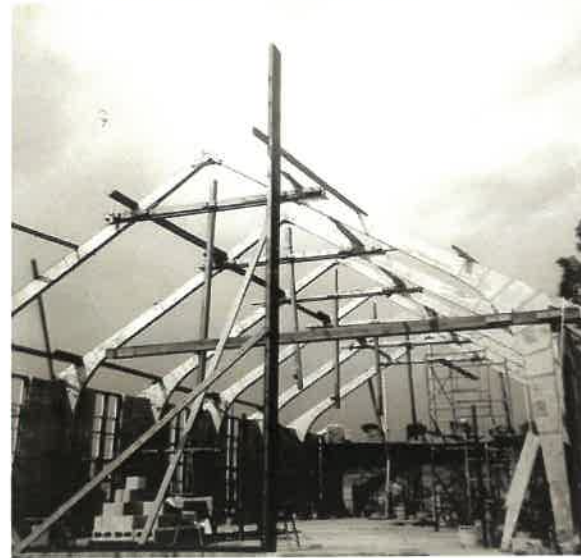




1964



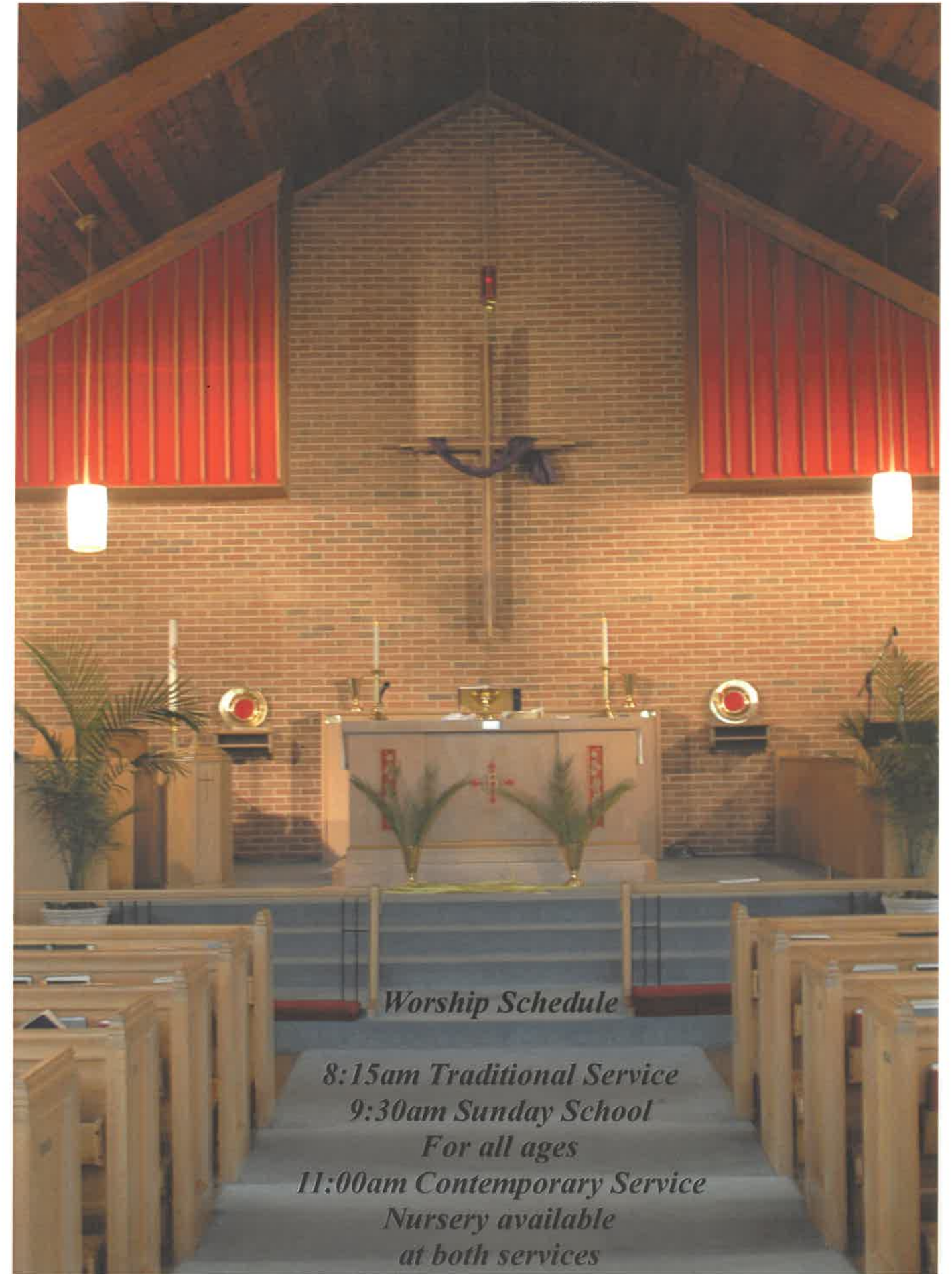
The Growth Continues~



2004



2007



Worship Schedule

8:15am Traditional Service
9:30am Sunday School
For all ages
11:00am Contemporary Service
Nursery available
at both services