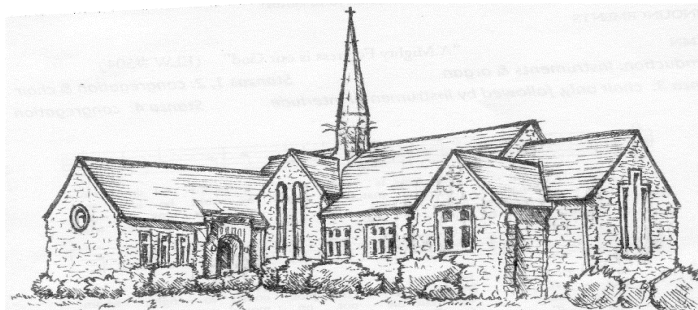


# CHRIST'S COMMUNIQUE

Issue: 660 April 2026

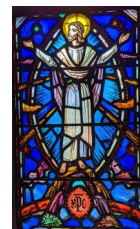


## 9am Drive In Worship



*Drive-In Worship is BACK!  
Bring your own chair, device for  
bulletin if able. Bulletins and padded  
folding chairs are available. **FM88.1** Live  
Streaming on FB & later on our website.*

**11am Traditional**  
*Traditional Worship in the  
Sanctuary*



### PASTOR CINDY'S NOTE

#### **Christ Is Risen! Christ Is Risen, Indeed! Alleluia!**

“The season of Easter is the season of celebration. Christ is risen! Death is conquered! Let all the people worship the Lord! The solemn preparation of Lent and the somber meditation of Holy Week gives way to victorious festivity during the fifty days of Easter... Many Christians assume that Easter is just one day. In fact, the church celebrates Easter for fifty days. During this season it remembers the post-resurrection appearances of Christ, it celebrates Christ's ascension into heaven, the coming of the Spirit on Pentecost, and begins to explore the implications of the Resurrection for the future of God's kingdom” (The Complete Library of Christian Worship, “Introduction to the Season of Easter,” p. 371-373).

As followers of Jesus, we are an Easter people! We praise God for Jesus' life. We give thanks to Christ for his death for us and for the world. We celebrate our Lord's resurrection not just on Easter day, not just during the fifty days of Easter, but every day! We celebrate the good news – because Christ lives, we will live also (John 14:19)!

Of course, we don't always feel like celebrating. The world and our lives are chaotic, difficult, even painful, to say the least. You don't need me to tell you that. Sickness, grief, financial concerns, politics, violence, suffering abounds... War continues in Iran and throughout the Middle East. Our immigrant neighbors still live in fear. Too many people are grieving the violent deaths of loved ones at this very moment. Our fears, griefs, sadnesses, and anger are simply part of the stuff life in the real world as it is now.

Thanks be to God, we know this is not the end of the story! The good news of Easter is that none of those things, including death, get to have the last word. Christ is risen. Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia! In the face of all the suffering and death the world has to offer, we have hope. We have hope for new life, eternal life, abundant life even now. Because Christ lives, we shall live also!

My siblings in Christ, this is GOOD NEWS! And good news is meant to be shared. With whom will you share the hope of the gospel this Easter season? Tell your story. Let others know why you have hope even in challenging times. Invite a friend to worship. Find a new way to serve God's people in need. In all these ways and more you proclaim the good news: Christ is risen. Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Thank you for your witness and for your partnership in the gospel!

*In Peace and Hope,  
Pastor Cindy*

# LEARNING + SERVING

**Roanoke Area Lutheran Youth**



**Upcoming Events**

**Winter/Spring 2026**

<b>APR 19</b>	<b>4pm ~ Hike &amp; Scavenger Hunt</b> 3pm ~ Confirmation @ Christ
<b>MAY 17</b>	<b>4pm ~ Lion's Share Service Event</b> 3pm ~ Confirmation @ St. Mark's

Watch for info about Virginia Synod Summer Youth Events

**SUNDAYS IN APRIL**

**APRIL 5 EASTER DAY**

- ♦ 10am Potluck breakfast in the Fellowship Hall, bring dish to share

**APRIL 12**

- ♦ 10am Adult Class meeting in the chapel

**APRIL 19**

- ♦ TOGETHER@10 Ages: 3yrs—5th graders gather in the Community Room, Youth—MS/HS meeting in the upstairs youth lounge, Adults meeting in the chapel
- ♦ Unsought— Grief support group 12 noon in the chapel
- ♦ 3pm Confirmation, 4pm Youth— Hike & Scavenger Hunt, Christ Lutheran

**APRIL 27**

- ♦ 10am Adult Class meeting in the chapel

**THANK YOU!**

The Social Ministry Team delivered food that was collected last month to the Lucy Addison Middle School Pantry. We filled a Subaru Outback and also had a check for \$435!

This month's collection is underwear and jeans for The Least of These. Thank you for supporting these community ministries!!



**TOGETHER@10**

**APRIL 5**

**EASTER DAY BRUNCH**  
Meets in the fellowship hall. Please bring a brunch item to share.

**APRIL 19**

**Sunday School for all ages**  
Ages: 3yrs—5th graders gather in the Community Room, Youth— MS/HS meeting in the upstairs youth lounge, Adults meeting in the chapel.

**CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED**

**MONDAY, APRIL 6**




**Family Promise in May!**

Mark your calendars for **May 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>.**

We will be hosting unhoused families again for those two days. We will need overnight hosts, meal preparers, food providers, and evening servers.

Keep an eye on the weekly bulletin for a Sign-up Genius. If you have any questions or want to get your name in early, contact Tom.

And thank you for your care for these folks in need.

**PALM SUNDAY**

We continue to use Eco-palms.

An organization that promotes Social Justice, Environmental Stewardship, and Fair Trade.

ECOPALMS.ORG



# HOLY WEEK

## at Christ Lutheran Church

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MAUNDY THURSDAY, April 2 ~ 7pm\*

GOOD FRIDAY, April 3

Way of the Cross (Walk on Grandin Rd) ~ 3pm

Tenebrae Service ~ 7pm\*


VIGIL OF EASTER, April 4 ~ 9pm

EASTER SUNDAY

9am\* (Outside) & 11am\* (Traditional)

10am Easter Brunch

\*Livestream on Facebook



### JIGSAW PUZZLES

I've become aware that many of us enjoy working jigsaw puzzles.

Wondering if there is an interest in getting together to puzzle over the pieces together while getting to know each other better.

We could meet at the church (preferably daytime) and two or three share a puzzle project together.

If we don't finish, we could store it until we met again.

Weekly or Monthly?

Let me know what you want to do .

I have 500 and 1000 pieces to get us started or bring your own challenges.

Let me know if you're interested and we'll meet to iron out the details.

Linda



### NOAH'S LANDING PRESCHOOL

- Spring break begins Monday, March 30th and goes through Monday, April 6th.
  - We will have teacher appreciation week May 11th – 14th. This is a special week that truly brightens our days and rejuvenates our passion for teaching!
- Thank you to all who volunteered for Literacy Night. It was a fun night with parents, teachers, and members from Christ Lutheran enjoying and appreciating reading & books.

*Stephanie,*  
*Directory of Noah's Landing Preschool*  
540-982-2254  
[noahslandingpreschool.org](http://noahslandingpreschool.org)



# EARTH DAY ~ WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22

Earth Day is an annual event held on April 22 to show support for the environment. The first Earth Day, was held in 1970, was the inspiration of Sen. Gaylord Nelson of Wisconsin with the help of Dennis Hayes to raise awareness about the environmental protection, demonstrate support for a healthy planet and encourage action like conservation, recycling and reducing pollution.

Today, events are coordinated globally for Earth Day, including 1 billion people in over 193 countries. In Roanoke, the Clean Valley Council will present Earth Day 2026 in Grandin Village on Saturday April 18 from 10-3pm.



**URBAN REBLOK'D**

## URBAN REBLOK'D

Joseph Brozovsky

Will be at Christ Lutheran  
in the parking lot.

Big White Truck!

**Wednesday April 22, from 5:30-7pm.**

Bring all plastics; Plastics numbered 1-7, Styrofoam, Stretchy film,  
Take out cups and containers, Old Electronics; phones, laptops, computers

Really, ANY and ALL plastics.

[urbanreblok.com](http://urbanreblok.com) to see more about Urban Reblok'd work in recycling.

## REUSABLE BAGS

We still have reusable bags available for purchase in the Narthex for \$2.

Grab one today in support of Earth Day!



**Ronald McDonald  
House Charities**  
Southwest Virginia

## TAB TOPS

Please bring in your **Tab Tops** for the **Ronald McDonald House by Tuesday, April 7, 2026**. The tab tops that Christ Lutheran Church and Noah's Landing Preschool have been collecting over the past year will be dropped off at the *annual Tab Top Recycling Competition at the Ronald McDonald House occurring the week of April 6, 2026*. **The tab tops will be weighed and recycled for their salvage value helping families of hospitalized children.** *This is an ongoing project providing love and hope to our community and families of seriously ill children.* **Please keep collecting** even after dropping off what you have thus far.

Thank you for your support. -Sara

# EARTH DAY ~ WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22

## VIRGINIA INTERFAITH POWER & LIGHT

Virginia Interfaith Power & Light (VAIPL) is the state affiliate of a national organization, VAILP, which is dedicated to bringing together all faith communities to mobilize a religious response to climate change through energy conservation, energy efficiency, and renewable energy. Christ Lutheran has partnered with VAILP to advance climate and justice in Virginia.

**For more information please contact us at [contactus@vaipl.org](mailto:contactus@vaipl.org) or call us at 804) 220-0078**



Join us every 6-8 weeks with local congregations in our community

ALL ARE WELCOME!



## STAR CITY COMPOST



2051 Blue Hills Dr NE 20412  
StarCityCompost@gmail.com  
540-384-0621

Creating quality compost and compost products for gardeners, landscapers, and farmers in the Roanoke Valley.

## A BIG THANK YOU!



To all members and visitors and our community for working so hard to change the way we thinking and participation in caring and being good stewards of our environment. Its all the small steps we make to change that help create a wonderful world for our next generation.

# Cookies and Conversation 2.0

## WE ARE CHURCH TOGETHER!

Thank you to the 57 Christ Lutheran members who gave their time and energy to gather with me and others between January and March! What a blessing to be together, to catch up, and to share our thoughts and hopes for our shared ministry. While we recognize that our congregation has changed over the years and that there are losses we grieve, we are still excited and grateful to serve God and others through the ministry of Christ Lutheran Church, Roanoke, VA! Here are some of the highlights our conversations:

\*What are the things/people/relationships that keep you feeling connected to our congregation?

It's all about the relationships! Here are some of the most common responses: community, feels like home, family and friends, belonging, support, friendliness, everyone is welcome, no judgement, accepting spirit, spiritual community, intergenerational... "We're all in this together... Everyone chips in... We are able to do more together..."

Of course, we are not just any community. Christ Lutheran members feel connected because of who we are as church – God-centered environment, worship, liturgy, music, Drive-in service, Choir, Praise Band, theology, social consciousness, serving ministries, spiritual guidance, our sanctuary, online worship, the message...

\*How can we continue to help others to feel connected to our congregation and ministry?

Our members have a lot of good ideas about that! Here are just a few: Invite more people to be a part of small groups like Table Talk or Handy Folks or one of our serving ministries. Members (not just pastor) can reach out to people we have not seen in a while. Members of CLC can join the Raleigh Court Neighborhood Association. Share the faith stories of CLC members and their participation in our ministries. Find ways to reach out and care for groups who are in our building throughout the week, especially Noah's Landing Preschool and AA.

\*How are we sharing God's love outside Christ Lutheran Church in Roanoke and beyond?

We are excited about the many serving ministries in which we participate - Family Promise, RAM House, Social Club, Care Portal, serving as a polling place, God's Work Our Hands, AA, St. Francis House, Blood Drives, Green Team...! We also have lots of other ideas – serving immigrants, learning more about local ministries, members caring for homebound members and friends, and more...

Thanks again to those who participated in the conversations! If you were not able to join one of the groups, please do not hesitate to contact me to share your responses too!

## ROANOKE JUSTICE MINISTRIES

Mark your calendars for **Thursday, May 7 @ 6:00pm** at Our Lady of Nazareth Catholic Church! You are invited to the RJM "Rethinking Justice Workshop." At this ecumenical meeting you will learn about the biblical foundations of justice ministry, faith-based community organizing, and how WE can make a difference in the lives of Roanokers!

Roanoke Justice Ministries is just getting started, but our sister organization in Richmond (RISC) has been doing faithful work since 2002. In recent years their work has led to "935 units of affordable housing developed or preserved between 2015 and 2021... almost 3000 families able to stay in their homes through the city's emergency rental assistance program... approximately 500 low-income job seekers have completed the VCU Pathways Program to prepare for healthcare careers..." Find out more at [riscrichmond.org](http://riscrichmond.org) and imagine what we can do in Roanoke in the coming years!

# ON GOING MINISTRIES AT CLC



**MONDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY:** Mondays at **10:30am** meet in the fellowship hall. All are welcome to join this group as we study the next Sunday's bible passages. No Bible Study April 6, respite for church staff.

**CHOIR REHEARSAL:** Choir rehearsals Wednesdays at **7:30pm** in the choir room. New singers are welcome to join, contact Nancy.



**HANDY FOLK GROUP:** Join the women & men that make up this wonderful group of people who take care of our church building. On **Friday April 3**, at 8am they will meet at Famous Anthony's at Oak Grove Mall for breakfast then do some maintenance work on the church property.

Contact George if you have questions.



**SOCIAL CLUB:** This group has been a part of Christ Lutheran Church for more than 30 years. Twice a month (September-June), adults with emotional and mental challenges are picked up in the church van from area homes for adults, brought to the church or another designated place, and served a meal.

Volunteers also assist the participants with an activity, Bingo is always an enjoyable game after dinner. Social Club meets on **Thursday night only April 16, 5pm at Christ Lutheran**. If you would like to help serve meals or drive the bus to pick up our members, please let Jeannine & Al know if you are able to volunteer.



**SOCIAL MINISTRY TEAM:** This group meets on **Thursday April 9**, in the parlor at 1pm. Anyone is welcome to join this group to hear more about social ministry and get involved.

**GREEN TEAM:** Meets **Wednesday April 8**, in the parlor at 1pm. Our mission: *"As good stewards of the earth, it is our mission to educate, act and advocate for a future where our children and grandchildren can live and thrive."* **Urban Reblock'd will be in our parking lot from 5:30-7pm**

**Wednesday April 22, EARTH DAY! Please bring all Plastics 1-7, any Electronics, Styrofoam, stretchy film.** If you have any questions about the "Green Team," contact Gudrun.



**CHURCH COUNCIL:** Meets **Tuesday April 14**, at 7pm. Meetings are the 2nd Tuesday of the month in the fellowship hall. Please let Richard know if you are unable to attend this meeting.



**UNSOUGHT:** Grief support group, **Sunday April 19**, @ noon in the chapel. Questions contact Gudrun.

**RAM LUNCHESES:** this faithful group continues to make lunches for RAM House. **This month Friday April 24, 8:30am.**

We are using **Sign-up Genius** for all our volunteer needs, from bread loaves to delivering lunches to RAM House. If you would like to be part of this ministry use this **QR Code, or link:** <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080D4BA9A92FA4FD0-59091922-ram>



You are welcome to pick one item or more on the app. Contact Pastor Cindy or Fiona if you have any questions or need help, 540-982-8334. April coordinators are **Julie & Bruce**.

**YARN N PRAYER:** This group of Knitters and Crocheters will meet in April, at the Co-op in Grandin Village. Contact Rita or Sheila if you have questions. Current projects are baptismal shawls, blankets to cover laps & shawls.



# FAMILY PROMISE OF GREATER ROANOKE



631 Abney Road Roanoke, VA 24012

Phone: 540 444 7374

Fax: 540 444 0220

[www.FamilyPromiseRoanoke.org](http://www.FamilyPromiseRoanoke.org)

[info@familypromiseroanoke.org](mailto:info@familypromiseroanoke.org)

March 4, 2026

Dear Friends,

The Board of Directors are reaching out with an urgent request for help to ensure Family Promise of Greater Roanoke can continue serving homeless families in our community.

We are currently facing a short-term operating crisis caused by delayed grant reimbursements and unexpected winter emergency costs. Since June 2025, we have not received reimbursement from our Emergency Shelter Grant (HUD, administered by the City of Roanoke) due to the federal shutdown and other delays beyond our control. As of today, we are owed approximately \$30,000 through this grant alone.

At the same time, recent ice and snowstorms required us to place families in hotels rather than with congregations to protect the safety of our volunteers and staff. In just four weeks, these emergency placements totaled more than \$4,500—an unplanned but necessary expense to keep families safe. While we are confident these HUD funds will be received, we must cover operating costs now to avoid service disruptions. The Board of Directors and our Executive Director are actively responding by pursuing new grants, beginning 2026 event sponsorship fundraising early, meeting with prospective donors, and limiting spending to essential services only.

Today, we are asking our closest partners to help bridge this gap with a gift toward general operating expenses. Your support right now ensures that families experiencing homelessness continue to receive safe shelter, transportation, and case management without interruption.

If you would like to speak directly with a Board Member, please feel free to reach out to our Board President Regen Peterson by email at [regen.peterson@rapid7.com](mailto:regen.peterson@rapid7.com) or by phone at 540-871-3622.

Thank you for standing with us—and with the families who depend on us—during this critical moment.

With Gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Regan Peterson", written over a horizontal line.

Regan Peterson, President  
Family Promise of Greater Roanoke

# PRAYERS & ACKNOWLEDGMENTS



**PRAYERS FOR: March 22-** Dave, Andrea, Jean (surgery), George, Charles & Susan, Betty, Ned (pacemaker replacement)

**March 15-** ODU students, faculty & families, Chuck, Jennifer, Taia +baby (Ronald McDonald House)

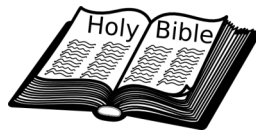
**March 8-** Evron (surgery 3/19), Jeanne (Jim's Mother), Clair & Brian (loss of mother)

**March 1-** Kitty, Sue, Carol (surgery recovery), all involved with the conflict in Iran, people of MN

**Families of:** 2/22- Susan (daughter of Katherine), Ann, 3/15- Betsy, Mary (mother of Jim), 3/22- Petur.

## SUNDAY SCRIPTURE

### READINGS IN APRIL



#### April 5- Easter Day

Acts 10:34-43, Ps 118:1-2, 14-24, Col 3:1-4, Matt 28:1-10

#### April 12- 2nd Sunday of Easter

Acts 2:14a, 22-32, Ps 16, 1 Peter 1:3-9, John 20:19-31

#### April 19 2nd Sunday of Easter

Acts 2:14a, 36-41, Ps 116:1-4, 12-19, 1 Peter 1:7-23, Luke 24:13-35

#### April 26- 2nd Sunday of Easter

Acts 2:42-47, Ps 23, 1 Peter 2:19-25, John 10:1-10



## Special Referendum Election – Tuesday, April 21

**BALLOT QUESTION:** Should the Constitution of Virginia be amended to allow the General Assembly to temporarily adopt new congressional districts to restore fairness in the upcoming elections, while ensuring Virginia's standard redistricting process resumes for all future redistricting after the 2030 census? Christ Lutheran will be open as a voting site for this election, church office will be open, Noah's Landing Preschool will be closed this day.

## APRIL BIRTHDAYS!

**2nd-** Kevin  
**3rd-** Sean  
**4th-** Bev, Chip, Ben  
**5th-** Kirsten  
**7th-** Cheri, Jeannine  
**9th-** Shelley, Mike, Emily, Ryan, Chas  
**11th-** Colin  
**14th-** Debbie  
**15th-** Caitlin, Sara, Mike  
**17th-** Ned  
**19th-** Darrin  
**22nd-** Buck  
**23rd-** Bonnie, Jo  
**27th-** Hugh, Cat  
**28th-** Kipton  
**29th-** Wanda



## NEWSLETTER

Thursday, April 30 at 9am in the Fellowship Hall, we will collate the newsletter.

Any articles for the MAY newsletter need to be received by April 15.  
Many Thanks.

# Choosing to See Our Vulnerable Neighbors

**TUESDAY, MAY 19 AT 7 P.M.**

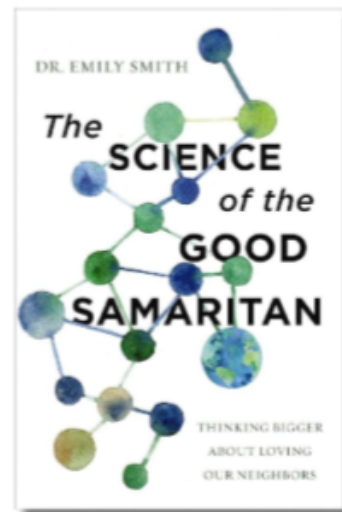
Hosted by

**Raleigh Court Presbyterian Church**  
1837 Grandin Rd SW · Roanoke, VA 24015

"How can we be neighbors in a world set up to do quite the opposite?" ... The key, she said, is looking to Jesus and seeing who Jesus placed in the center of his attention. ... He flipped who should be in the middle of our attention on its head."

"I hope this book helps people understand how to do just that by understanding historical inequities, systemic racism and structural violence through storytelling and data. I also hope it can help places of worship have these conversations in nonthreatening but challenging ways in their own congregations."

- From an interview with Baptist News Global



## Registration

Strongly Encouraged  
(But Not Required)



### 11AM WORSHIP



We are looking for a few more volunteers to help Greet and Usher at the 11am worship service. Please click on the QR Code or link to sign up.

[Christ Lutheran Church: Greeters & Ushers](#)

Sign ups are need by the **15th of the month** for the following month.  
Questions contact Jo.

### COMMUNITY REWARDS FROM KROGER



12.01.2025 through 02.28.2026

**We have 9 households with donations totaling \$43.61.**

Thank you to all that have participate in this program. Its so easy to sign up for on your Kroger app today, let me know if you have any questions, Fiona—Church Office Admin.

# APRIL FINANCIAL REPORT

Below are the finance figures through February. The church seems to be on a good pace to start the year financially. January giving was much lower than average, but then February was strong. Combined with spending being below budget, our income has been very close to expenses.

Month	Monthly Income	Monthly Ex- penses	YTD Budgeted	YTD Received	YTD Spent
January	\$29,635	\$41,180	\$58,308	\$29,635	\$58,308
February	\$46,712	\$37,966	\$99,503	\$76,347	\$79,195

You may know that a new roof was needed for the house closest to the church. This was easily paid for from conserved rental income.

The investment account has a balance of \$2,061,879 as of March 18<sup>th</sup>. In January and February the portfolio had very significant gains totaling \$173,769. Much of those were lost in the first half of March. However, at this point we are still positive for the year by \$68,336.

The audit is the next project up for the Finance Committee. If you are interested in helping with this, or would like more information, please contact me at (540) 521-4403 or send an email to: [financechair@christlutheranroanoke.org](mailto:financechair@christlutheranroanoke.org).

Once again, we thank all for your continued support of the ministry of Christ Lutheran Church.

*Jim,  
Finance Committee Chair*

## EACH WEEK AT CHRIST LUTHERAN

- 9am Sunday Drive In Worship & Facebook live streaming
  - 11am Sunday Traditional Worship
- Adult Bible study Mondays at 10:30am
  - Book study Wednesdays at 10am

## FOLLOW US



**CHRISTLUTHERANROANOKE**

**[www.christlutheranroanoke.org](http://www.christlutheranroanoke.org)**

*Newsletter can be found on our website.*

## STAFF OF CHRIST LUTHERAN

**Pastor:** Rev. Cynthia Keyser  
(O) 540-982-8334, ext#2 (C) 540-524-8430.  
[pastorcindy@christlutheranroanoke.org](mailto:pastorcindy@christlutheranroanoke.org)

**Church Office Administrator:** Fiona Schulz  
(O) 540-982-8334, ext#1  
[secretary@christlutheranroanoke.org](mailto:secretary@christlutheranroanoke.org)

**Organist/Director of Music:** Nancy Delaney  
(H) 540-597-3189.

**New Song Music:** Kim Mucha  
(C) 540-529-5456

**Director of Noah's Landing Preschool:**  
Stephanie Zewatsky  
(O) 540-982-2254, [noahslandingpreschool.org](http://noahslandingpreschool.org)

**Treasurer:** Linda Worman  
(O) 540-982-8334 , ext#3  
[treasurer@christlutheranroanoke.org](mailto:treasurer@christlutheranroanoke.org)

**Financial Secretary:** Diana Pilat  
(O) 540-982-8334, ext#3  
[financialsecretary@christlutheranroanoke.org](mailto:financialsecretary@christlutheranroanoke.org)

**Good news especially for:**



**Christ Communique**  
Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church  
2011 Brandon Avenue, SW  
Roanoke, Virginia 24015

Non-Profit  
Organization  
U.S.  
Postage  
PAID  
Roanoke,  
Virginia  
Permit #444