

# Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

## *The Shepherd's Staff*



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### **LENTEN SEASON – COMING SOON!!**

### **MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW!!**

### **LENT SCHEDULE 2019**

**Ash Wednesday  
March 6, 2019**

Service of Worship with  
Imposition of Ashes and  
Holy Communion

### **WEEKLY WEDNESDAY SERVICES IN LENT – 7:00 PM**

Half hour service of worship

### **HOLY WEEK WORSHIP**

<b>Palm Sunday</b>	<b>April 14</b>
<b>Maundy Thursday with 1<sup>st</sup> communion</b>	<b>April 18</b>
<b>Good Friday</b>	<b>April 19</b>
<b>Easter Sunday</b>	<b>April 21</b>

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## PASTOR'S NOTE

Have you ever seen a miracle? Have you ever been part of a miracle?

The other week in confirmation our lesson was on miracles. We played around with some definitions for a miracle: not explained by science (or reason); something good in a bad situation; getting someone through something that's impossible, God makes it happen.

We often turn to the Bible when looking for miracles. There's Jesus resurrection from the dead and raising Lazarus from death to life. There are also miracles of healing the sick, making the lame to walk and the blind to see. Some of the other miracles include the feeding of over 5000 people with 5 loaves and 2 fish, walking on water, and turning water into wine. And that's not all. In fact, the Gospel of John ends with saying that Jesus did many other signs that aren't recorded.

It's easy to name those stories in the Bible as miraculous, but what about events in our world and in our lives today? Have you ever seen a miracle? Have you ever been part of a miracle?

When I posed this question to a group of parishioners a number of years ago, one woman was quick to share her story. She talked about her and her husband driving along the Ohio Turnpike and being the first ones on the scene of a horrible accident. While her husband called for help, she held the hand of someone who was severely injured. She held his hand and talked to him and prayed until he was airlifted from the scene, and how that man was so grateful for her presence and comfort. This woman shared with us that God had put her in the right place at the right time. Maybe that's another definition of miracle.

I personally think miracles happen all around and even through us. Sometimes we label them as coincidence and sometimes we are so busy with our lives we don't pause long enough to realize what God's up to in the world and in our lives. I wonder if at the feeding of the 5000 if the crowds realized how they were fed? I wonder if the boy who gave Jesus his 5 loaves and 2 fish realized that he was a part of the miracle? Hopefully they recognized what was going on, and then shared what they saw with others.

The miracles in the Bible were written down to be shared with us and the world. As miracles happen in our lives we too are called to share our stories with others. God acts in all of our lives. God gets us out of situations that are impossible. God puts us in the right place at the right time. Let's watch for God's work in our lives and share these miracle stories with others.

In Christ,

Pastor Krista

# CONGREGATIONAL LIFE/YOUTH

## MILESTONE BLANKET WORK DAY

Nothing is more fun on a cold winter day than hanging out with friends. Spend **Friday, February 8<sup>th</sup>**, from 8:00 a.m. until about noon, with Good Shepherd friends making blankets for graduates and others. Meet at church for sewing, fellowship, fun, and of course food! Sewing skills are helpful, but not required. So if you can't sew, come anyway to cut, pin, tie and most of all have fun.

## BOOK GROUP IN FEBRUARY

Winter is a great time to read books and talk about them with friends. Join Good Shepherd's Book Group for February! Our book is *The Room* by Emma Donoghue. We will discuss the book on Wednesday, February 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm. You may check out a copy from the book bag in the music room.

The March book is *Stella Bain* by Anita Shreve. A library book bag is reserved so you can pick up the book after our February meeting. We will meet on March 20<sup>th</sup>. The time may change because of Lent.

## SENIOR HIGH YOUTH MINISTRY – GRADES 9-12

### Chicago Service Trip: July 28<sup>th</sup> - August 2<sup>nd</sup>

This summer Good Shepherd will be sending a group of youth to serve and learn in Chicago. Often this is one of the most meaningful for our youth. We will see the world through different eyes when we return. We do have space if someone else would like to come. Contact Carole Joyce as soon as possible to reserve your spot.

There will be a meeting for youth and parents on Wednesday, February 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m.

### February Coffee Shop

Thanks to the high school youth, we have flavored coffee, hot chocolate and cinnamon rolls between services once a month. Look for these tasty treats on February 17<sup>th</sup>. Join us for wonderful fellowship. Thank you to the congregation for your support of high school ministry.

# CONGREGATIONAL NEWS

## BUILDING UPDATE

The building project is in full swing. Over this last month the walls have gone up, the roof framing has been completed, and 70% of the new roof is done. In addition, the roof over the current fellowship hall and Sunday school rooms is completed. Several inches of insulation have also been added above the Sunday school rooms and it now has a low pitch versus being flat. These improvements will make it more energy efficient and increase the life span of the new roof.

## MILESTONES

### Baptisms

Blessings to Easton Jack Sawyer, who was baptized on December 30, 2018. Easton is the son of Ryan & Caroline Sawyer.

Blessings to Claire Ann Rahman, who was baptized on January 6, 2019. Claire is the daughter of Brady & Annie Rahman.

Blessings to Penelope Lee Weinrich, who was baptized on January 6, 2019. Penelope is the daughter of Tommy & Chelsea Rahman.

# EDUCATION

## TOGETHER IN FAITH

### **Second Grade: “What’s Fair?” – February 3<sup>rd</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>**

We are looking forward to seeing you and your child at the special class for second graders and their parents, “What’s Fair?”. This will be a time of serious fun, where we will face one of our children’s greatest frustrations – that life isn’t fair! Discover together how to cope with life’s unfairness and learn what God considers the fair facts. We will meet in the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade classroom from 9:15 –10:15 a.m. on February 3<sup>rd</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>.

### **Kindergartners: The Lord’s Prayer (February 17<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> at 9:15 a.m.)**

We look forward to seeing kindergarteners and their parents to learn "The Lord's Prayer" and about the meaning of this special prayer that Jesus gave us.

We will meet at 9:15 a.m. on February 17<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>. Gather in the fellowship hall. We will pick a Sunday for our kindergartners to lead the Lord's Prayer during worship service.

### **Looking ahead to March...**

### **4<sup>th</sup> Grade: The Apostles’ Creed -- March 3<sup>rd</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>**

### **Preschool Pray and Play for 3 & 4 Year Olds—March 17<sup>th</sup>**

We are never too young to learn how to pray. Join us at 9:15 as we explore prayer and take home some fun new ways to pray and play together!

### **1<sup>st</sup> Grade: God and Gifts -- March 24<sup>th</sup>**

Kids and parents together will learn about ushering and what happens with money at church. Meet in the sanctuary at 9:30 am on March 24<sup>th</sup>. Then sign up to be an usher on a Sunday or Wednesday during Lent

## **MONTHLY TUESDAY AFTERNOON BIBLE STUDY**

The Tuesday afternoon Bible study will be meeting at Good Shepherd Church on **February 5<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m.**

# EDUCATION CONTINUED ...

## VBS 2019



### **Save the Dates for VBS 2019:**

**Dates: Monday - Thursday, June 10-13**

**Time: 6:00 - 7:45 pm**

**Who: Children currently in Grades Pre K- 4<sup>th</sup>**

Watch for sign up information and volunteer opportunities in next month's newsletter. All youth and adults who would like to help are welcome 4<sup>th</sup> grade on up!

### **VBS Planning Team Needed!**

We will meet late in February to finalize the theme and begin planning. Skills needed are people with one (or more) of these interests: organized, creative, love Bible stories, love being with children, enjoy decorating, enjoy kids' games, fun-loving, and/or music. You don't need them all! Contact Carole Joyce or Karla Appel to help pick the meeting time.

### **GOOD EARTH VILLAGE BIBLE CAMP REGISTRATION IS OPEN!**

A week (or several days) at Bible camp is a wonderful way to have lots of fun, explore God's amazing creation, and have great faith conversations. New research shows this has a life-long effect! Because this can be such a meaningful experience, Good Shepherd will pay part of the fee of any student who would like to go to camp at Good Earth Village this summer! This offer is for any student Kind-9<sup>th</sup> grade. (Full scholarships are available for anyone with financial need. Just talk to Carole Joyce or Pastor Krista.)

See the options and register at [goodearthvillage.org](http://goodearthvillage.org). Brochures will also be available at church. Send your registration and deposit directly to Good Earth Village. Then let Carole Joyce or the church office know you are going!

Only want to go for one day and go with Good Shepherd friends? Sign up for July 24<sup>th</sup> and we will carpool together. Sign up by mid-March to make sure there is space.

# FINANCE

## Good Shepherd Lutheran Church 2019 Budget Proposal 1/19/2019

	2016 Actuals	2017 Actuals	2018 Proposal	2018 Actuals	2019 Proposal
Revenue					
Envelopes & Simply	198,307\$	215,744\$	225,000\$	222,040\$	228,000\$
Giving					
Plate	3,837\$	3,807\$	4,000\$	4,346\$	4,000\$
Interest Income	60\$	40\$		60\$	60\$
Misc Income	549\$	1,336\$	600\$	683\$	600\$
Special Services	6,021\$	7,503\$	5,000\$	8,205\$	5,000\$
Luther Seminary			4,000\$		
Total Revenue	208,774\$	228,430\$	238,660\$	235,274\$	237,660\$
Expenses					
Administration/Op Exp					
Bank Charges	591\$	782\$	400\$	862\$	400\$
Copy Machine	1,933\$	1,885\$	1,900\$	2,076\$	1,900\$
Guest Pastor	324\$				400\$
Meetings, Etc.	525\$	720\$	500\$	445\$	500\$
Other	3,509\$	808\$	500\$	807\$	500\$
Postage	929\$	911\$	1,000\$	1,101\$	1,000\$
Supplies	1,213\$	748\$	800\$	431\$	800\$
Telephone	1,030\$	891\$	900\$	855\$	900\$
Video/Audio/Technology	214\$	250\$		129\$	250\$
Zumbro River Conference					
Mortgage -Interest Pymt	3,869\$	1,860\$		220\$	155\$
Total Admin/Operating	14,137\$	8,605\$	6,870\$	6,861\$	6,650\$
Benevolence					
ELCA & Synod	12,472\$	12,472\$	12,472\$	12,472\$	12,472\$
Good Earth	150\$	85\$	500\$	1,213\$	500\$
Lutheran Social Services		196\$	500\$		500\$
Other	752\$	1,944\$	500\$	4,925\$	500\$
Plainview/Elgin Food shelf	6,021\$	5,436\$	3,500\$	2,133\$	3,500\$
Total Benevolence	19,591\$	19,937\$	17,472\$	20,743\$	17,472\$
% To Benevolence	9.38%	8.73%	7.32%	8.82%	7.35%
Employee Compensation	134,148\$	146,574\$	150,593\$	150,207\$	147,029\$
Maintenance					
Contracted Services	7,505\$	8,287\$	8,400\$	7,947\$	8,000\$
Electricity	4,001\$	4,073\$	4,000\$	3,850\$	4,000\$
Garbage Removal	1,584\$	1,703\$	1,500\$	1,582\$	900\$
Heating Fuel	3,319\$	3,678\$	3,500\$	5,674\$	7,000\$
Other	393\$	445\$	400\$	129\$	400\$
Property/Liab/Insurance	4,532\$	4,728\$	4,500\$	6,102\$	4,500\$
Repairs	1,818\$	699\$	1,800\$	1,189\$	1,800\$
Supplies	791\$	626\$	1,200\$	787\$	1,200\$
Total Maintenance	23,943\$	24,239\$	25,300\$	27,260\$	27,800\$
Programs					
Education	1,877\$	2,015\$	2,500\$	2,898\$	2,500\$
Congregational Life	263\$	397\$	1,500\$	597\$	1,500\$
Stewardship	20\$				500\$
Worship & Music Other	1,877\$	2,015\$	1,900\$	1,650\$	1,900\$
Total Programs	4,017\$	4,447\$	6,400\$	5,326\$	6,400\$
Total Expenses	195,836\$	203,802\$	206,635\$	210,397\$	205,351\$
Surplus/Deficit	12,938\$	24,628\$	32,025\$	24,877\$	32,309\$
Mortgage -Principle Pymt	35,635\$	37,644\$	15,893\$	15,893\$	33,457\$
Computer Replacement		2,000\$		1,200\$	
Total Capital Outlay	35,635\$	37,644\$	17,893\$	17,093\$	33,457\$
Surplus/Deficit	(22,697)\$	(13,016)\$	14,132\$	7,784\$	(1,148)\$
Capital Budget					
Building Fund Appeal	93,349\$	135,622\$	135,000\$	234,731\$	135,000\$
Capital Outlay/bldg fund		21,309\$		2,000\$	



# MISSIONS & STEWARDSHIP

## GOD'S WORK: OUR HANDS

Thank you to all who have filled back packs for PEM school children during December and January. Confirmation students filled them every week. Thrivent included gift cards at Christmas. Pastor Krista transported the bags back and forth to the school. The number of bags is growing and we are so thankful that families who need food get it.

The Sunday school students gave \$350 this fall/winter. Their offering was sent to Lutheran Disaster Response for those affected by hurricanes and wild fires in the US this year. From now until spring their offering will go to hungry kids in PEM through the backpack program and Angel Lunch Program.

A check for \$2,328.21 was delivered to the Plainview-Elgin Area Food Shelf. This money was collected through the December noisy offering, the proceeds from our Chili Cook-Off and from our Advent services offerings. THANKS to all who contributed to the Food Shelf during the month of December.

# BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

## Birthdays

<b>02/01</b>	Riley Wendt	<b>02/16</b>	Paul Fick
<b>02/05</b>	Jon Amos	<b>02/17</b>	Jan Fiskum
	Barb Kingsley		Ashton LaBare
	Brynlee Matti	<b>02/18</b>	Franny Schwantz
<b>02/07</b>	Sandy Ulwelling	<b>02/19</b>	Leanne Brevig
	Ashley Schreiber	<b>02/20</b>	Carol Buntrock
	Clayton Weinrich	<b>02/21</b>	Steve Erwin
	Wayne Miller		Justin Gusa
<b>02/08</b>	Laney Gusa		Joe Weinrich
	Piper Schneider	<b>02/22</b>	Buzz Christison
	Tom Welti	<b>02/25</b>	Elaine Salek
<b>02/09</b>	Brenda Crudele	<b>02/26</b>	Kory Bigalk
<b>02/10</b>	Neil Weaver		Parker Grant
	Shannon Olstad	<b>02/27</b>	Kirk Bartz
<b>02/11</b>	Ryan King	<b>02/28</b>	Corrine Hanson
<b>02/12</b>	Gina Ihrke		Andrea Masee
<b>02/16</b>	Gracelyn Grant		Landon Gusa
	Cindy Rettmann		

## Anniversaries

<b>02/06</b>	Bob & Sue Tangen
	Lee Olson & Marcia Woodward
<b>02/14</b>	Jim & Char Balcome
<b>02/16</b>	Steve Fenske & Carol Goergen-Fenske
	George & Karen Back
<b>02/26</b>	Travis & Gina Ihrke

**PLEASE CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE IF YOU HAVE ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS TO THE LIST OF BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES.**

\*NOTE: Birthdays and anniversaries listed in the newsletters are now being limited to adult members and their college-aged and under children. If you have questions and/or concerns with this, please contact the church office.

### ***FOOD FOR THOUGHT***

**Practice makes perfect,  
So be careful what you practice.**

**Good Shepherd Lutheran Church**

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The Shepherd's Staff is a communication tool among our friends and members spreading the word of Jesus Christ with news of our church and related events. It is published monthly by Good Shepherd Lutheran Church of Plainview-Elgin.

**VISION STATEMENT, GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH**

Claimed by God through Word & Sacrament, we move forward with a NEW VIEW:

**N**otice the needs of our congregation, community, and world with eyes of faith.  
**E**ducate all from cradle to grave.  
**W**orship in thankfulness and joy.

**V**alue all generations in passing on the faith.  
**I**dentify and affirm the gifts of God's people.  
**E**nergize God's people to use their gifts for ministry.  
**W**elcome the opportunity to walk the talk with our youth.

**The submission deadline for the March 2019 Newsletter is**

***FrIDAY, FEBRUARY 22.***