



The Shepherd's Voice

January, 2018

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church (ELCA), 439 E. Norvell Bryant Hwy., Hernando, FL

Pastor's Page

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

Matthew 2: 1-12

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, ²asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." ³When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: ⁶'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'" ⁷Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." ⁹When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. ¹²And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.



We continue to celebrate Christmas until January 6th when we recognize the visit of the Magi. Lots of people started celebrating Christmas right after Thanksgiving and are tired of having their trees and decorations up. They begin taking them down December 26th. Well for those of you who enjoy your Christmas greens, you can keep them up until Epiphany, which is January 6th. A couple of things to note about the reading of the Magi, or the wise men, are that there is no number mentioned. We use the number three because there are three gifts mentioned: gold, frankincense and myrrh. The other thing to note is that they entered a "house" not a stable. So that we believe the Holy family made it home by the time the wise men came to visit. We don't know exactly how long it took them to make the journey. Nonetheless we celebrate the Epiphany of our Lord on January 6th each year ending the Christmas season and beginning the Sundays after Epiphany or "Ordinary Time".

What a letdown after our caroling and gifting of presents and feasting on delicious meals with family and friends. And the church goes back to green from white and gold. OH BOY, what a letdown.

Continued...

However, what we have now is a time to reflect on our lives and our relationship with our Lord. We ask ourselves the questions:

Why are we, "Good Shepherd Lutheran Church," here in this community?

What difference do we make?

Why am I here?

What difference do I make as a disciple of Christ?

What has Christ done for me?

What can I, in turn, do for others in Christ's name?

This is the time to reflect on these questions, my friends. We are a community built on Christ's love and forgiveness. There are so many people out there right around us that have no clue about Jesus and what he has done and will do and it is up to us to invite them in to meet him.

May we all be witnesses to God's love in Christ Jesus during this "Ordinary" time of Reflection.

In Christ's Peace,

Pastor Felice



CONGREGATION RETREAT

December 2, 2017

Greetings to all the Good Shepherd Congregation!

The following article is notes from the Good Shepherd Congregation Retreat! Sister Michelle Collins, from our synod offices, led us in our "Core Values Retreat" and has provided this detailed report for your review. The retreat is recommended by the synod when a congregation is preparing for the selection of a new pastor. We were very pleased to hear from Sister Michelle that this was the largest group attending her retreat AND she has worked with congregations larger than Good Shepherd.

If you have any questions, comments or concerns, please talk with our interim pastor, Felice Johnson, or our church council president, Mike Busler.

Respectfully submitted,
Angela Busler
Member of Good Shepherd

Good Shepherd Lutheran, Hernando
Core Values Retreat
Dec. 2, 2017
Facilitated by Sister Michelle Collins

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Hernando, FL is a medium/large congregation (2 services, average worshipping attendance 100-150). The congregation is a mix of ages, with a dwindling appearance of young families. The congregation has a 30 yr. history. The most recent pastor left in August, 2017, so the congregation is going through a season of transition with an interim pastor. The Core Values Retreat was called as part of the interim process as directed by the synod office. The retreat was presented as mandatory before a Call Committee can be formed. About 40 people attended the retreat, including council members, staff, and active involved volunteers. Some who attended have been part of the congregation for a long time, while others joined recently.

The goals of the retreat were articulated as:

- To get a sense of the congregation's history as a way of lifting up the congregation's core values
- To get a sense of biblical core values that are drawn out of scripture
- To begin articulating a list of core values for Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
- To understand the purpose of clarifying core values in preparation for calling a new pastor

The retreat began with a definition and description of core values and an invitation to begin articulating personal goal values by reflecting on some questions, including: "What is it easy for you to spend money on? What rituals and traditions really matter to you? What do you want to be remembered for? What lesson/s would you like to pass on to the next generation?" This exercise helped the participants begin understanding what core values are.

The next activity involved laying out a historical timeline of Good Shepherd as a way of drawing out the congregation's core values. Participants were invited to list significant events (positive and negative), major decisions, and other major influences in the congregation's life. Although the church has been in place since 1987 or so, there was more emphasis on the recent history of building expansion, pastoral transition, and the new stained glass windows. Based on this timeline, the group was asked to make a list of values that these events point to—what values are apparent from the congregation's story? Those words were listed on large paper.

The next activity was to draw out core values from the biblical story. Groups formed at tables, and read one of 3 passages of scripture: John 4:1-26, Acts 10:1-23 and Philippians 2:1-9. After reading and discussing the texts, additional words of value were added to the list.

The group was then invited to 'vote' on the 7 words they thought most strongly described what Good Shepherd values/stands for/thinks is important. There was a tie, so a total of 8 words were lifted up: All-inclusive, Stewardship, Outreach, Willing to Evolve, Worship, Children and Youth, Generosity, and Mission. In discussion the other words listed were added to these main 8 words as descriptors, sub-categories, included in the main word, etc. Groups were assigned to write a brief sentence or description to these 8 words.

The group generally felt that the 8 words and the corresponding sentences accurately begin articulating the core values of the congregation. Additional conversation for clarity and brevity may be helpful, but these 8 sentences generally describe what the congregation values at this point in its history. The group was interested to get additional feedback from those who were not able to make it to the retreat, and was intent on making sure there was follow-up so the ideas generated could be shared. The group was also very concerned about the council and the call committee continuing to take these values seriously in conversation with pastoral candidates.

Some general observations:

The participants in the retreat were generally engaged in the conversation about core values, and gradually were more able to point to values rather than programs as what was important. Throughout the day, I tried to emphasize that if the VALUES can be the thing the community agrees on, there can be flexibility and creativity in the programs that come out of those values. This helps people approach areas of disagreement from a less combative stance. There was still a tendency to point to programs, though, so as the conversation continues, an ongoing emphasis on the motivations/values of ministry will continue to be important. I also noticed that there was not a lot of conversation about spiritual growth, spiritual practices, etc. There was a lot of conversation about relationships with each other and relationships with the community being important, but not as much conversation about relationships with God. The conversation about worship had to do with creating space for positive relationships (non-judgmental about music styles, greeting neighbors and new people in the pews, etc.), and less about creating a space for spiritual experience or an encounter with God. The group's commitment to the values of being all-inclusive, generous and willing to evolve is interesting in light of the group's other commitment to children and youth. Additional conversation about how these values are connected will be important.

One additional note: Along with core values, a congregation in transition is also asked to articulate a mission statement. If Good Shepherd does not currently have a mission statement, perhaps one of the core values statements (mission or generosity, for example) might be speaking more to a mission statement. Leadership could consider using one of those statements as the mission statement. Good Shepherd already has the following statement on the web site as a mission statement:

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church exists to welcome all people to faith; equip all people with a faith that works in real life; and send us in service into the world in Jesus' name.

A conversation with leadership about whether this statement still describes Good Shepherd's mission may be adequate.

Next steps:

The conversation about core values will need to continue. Additional feedback from those who weren't at the retreat may be helpful. Formatting the statements into concise statements that can be shared and discussed broadly will be helpful. Additional conversation about 'what does this mean' will help expand commitment to these values.

NOTES

Core Values

- Reflect what is basic and important to a congregation
- Define identity and character
- Are true despite leaders
- Guide decisions and actions
- Convey what the congregation stands for

Congregational timeline:

- Art League Mission Pastor; lost usher (1984)
- First phase of church money (1987)
- Church furnishings—who can give what (1987)
- Coming to this church and enjoying the people; working with different outreach at church and Citrus County (1990)
- Calling Pastor Ohsiek—carried on committees format (1995)
- Interim Pastor Keyes (1994)—good for the transition between pastors; established committees
- Pastor Keys Interim

- My new member class
- Pastor Ken Blyth became pastor (2008)
- Conflict: retiring pastor not being allowed to attend (2008)
- Pastor Rentz conflict Ohsiek's leaving (2008)
- Expansion of building (1996/97; 2008)
- Pastor Blyth brought good sermons, humor; lightened the atmosphere; supported outreach
- In 2006-2007 outreach program by bishop's office to congregations non-existing!
- 25th anniversary of our church across the street (2010)
- Remodeling (2011)
- Services in the fellowship hall during rebuilding
- Love-giving during illness and death of my husband; bread outreach and SOS (July 2011)
- Most recent addition of space—choir, library, narthex space, education spaces
- Major renovation (2012)
- Visioning Process—5 yr. vision (2013-2014)
- Stained glass windows (2013)
- Stained glass window campaign
- Joined church family (2014)
- First winter music series (2015)
- A play yard was built by an eagle scout (Sean) (2016)
- Joined Good Shepherd (2017)
- Joined Nov. 26, 2017; felt very welcomed
- Celebration Ken farewell 2017-08-05
- Pastor Blyth left 2017
- 'conflict' vote for/against 'now the feast' setting (Spring 2017)
- Pastor's farewell (Aug. 2017)

List of values, put into general categories based on the top 8 values the group most resonated with. The remaining values were added where they seemed to fit, even if they fit in more than one place:

- All Inclusive
 - Inviting
 - Welcoming
 - Non-judgmental
 - Cross boundaries
 - Sense of belonging
 - Friendliness
 - Compassion
 - Friends and family
- Stewardship
 - Financial viability
 - Volunteerism
 - Generosity for a cause
 - Hosting community organizations
- Outreach
 - Mission
 - Service
 - Evangelism

- Word/service
 - Christian values
 - Honesty
 - Cooperation
 - Friends and family
- Willing to evolve
 - Growth
 - Cooperation
 - Spiritual growth
 - Strong leadership
 - Committee format
- Worship
 - Music
 - Spiritual growth
 - Willing to evolve
 - Teaching the Gospel
 - Proclamation
- Children and Youth
 - Inclusive
 - Spiritual growth
 - Fellowship
 - Willing to evolve
 - Friends and families
- Generosity
 - Mission
 - Responding to a cause
 - Support for grief
 - Crossing boundaries
 - Stewardship
 - Responding to faith
 - Obedience
 - Fellowship
- Mission
 - Service
 - Evangelism
 - Outreach
 - Teaching the Gospel
 - Spiritual growth
 - Pastoral care/support for grieving
 - Technology
 - Willing to evolve
 - Loyalty, trust and humility

Core Values and defining sentences:

Willing to Evolve: To grow, to adjust, to be open—all with discernment—as people of God. Embracing the change in our approach to, expression of, and deepening spirituality. Focused on helping our youth, our member fellowship, and in serving others in our community. “Be the change you wish to see in the world” – Mohandas K. Gandhi

Children/Youth: Creating/nurturing a sense of community and faith growth for the younger members. Encouraging growth and involvement within the church for years to come.

Mission: Mission at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church means we, as a congregation, are willing to work at teaching the gospel with loyalty to God’s Word, trust, and humility to all and are willing to serve others to this end.

All-inclusive: Welcoming is the larger concept of all-inclusive, inviting, non-judgmental. To welcome new people (and other members) we have to be FRIENDLY. We get to know other people whether it be people at the other end of the pew or those who attend the other service, by reaching out to them, not expecting them to reach out to us first. Welcoming means inviting them to join groups to meet people and make new friends.

Stewardship: All we have comes from God. Guided by the Holy Spirit we shall care and share what God gives us. Earth is our responsibility, we shall conserve and use it wisely. As stewards of our own bodies we should make wise choices for our health. We should generously share our time and talents. We should share our financial and physical resources with our church and our community.

Generosity: We at Good Shepherd, seeing needs not met in our community (both inside and outside our church), cross our own boundaries to reach a variety of people in support of their needs.

Outreach: Outreach is to promote Christian values by word and service to our church family, community, and the world.

How will we share these values?

1. Sr. Michelle will type up notes and return to pastor (2 weeks)
2. Angela will put something in the newsletter
3. The council will represent this info to the Call Committee
4. John will share images electronically
5. Council will invite feedback
6. These values will inform Call Committee

HAPPY★NEW★YEAR



The following are highlights from the December Council meeting:

- **Beginning January 1, 2018, there will be only one coffee hour from 9:30am – 10:45am between the two services in lieu of the current practice of coffee hour after each service.**
- It was decided to suspend coffee hour after the single service on Christmas Eve.
- A suggestion to obtain a Co-Chairperson for Christian Ed. – volunteers being sought.
- A suggestion to re-institute the “Sponsor” program for new members, i.e. to provide the new members with a sponsor to help acclimate them to the congregation. Suggestion approved and will be passed along to the Evangelism Committee.
- Proposed budget was approved and will be presented to the congregation at the congregational meeting on 28 January 2018.
- Approved Jane Isenstead as new Mutual Ministry member.
- Approved Fall Congregational Meeting to be held in conjunction with Rally Day. Date for both will be 26 August 2018.

- Approved facility usage for the Citrus Community Choir on 8 April 2018.
- Approved facility usage for the Citrus County Supervisor of Elections – 28 August & 6 November 2018.
- Approved Pastor Felice’s compensation package and contract renewal.
- Approved facility usage for the Shrove Tuesday’s pancake supper by the Cub Scouts.

Next Meeting – Executive Board – 2 January (9 a.m.)

Council Meeting – 8 January (7 p.m.)

HAPPY★NEW★YEAR

Worship and Music



Just a couple of important items were discussed:

1. Discussion was held concerning early communion for children. The consensus was that Christian Education will set up instruction. It was recommended and approved by Worship and Music.
2. The committee is in desperate need of finding someone to order the flowers for Sunday morning worship and other special occasions. It is something a couple of individuals could even do. If you have questions or are interested, please contact Roger Johnson or someone on the Worship and Music committee.
3. John Gifford still needs more people to be trained to assist in the sound booth. Please contact John Gifford for more

Continued...

Worship and Music continued...

4. information. There might even be some teens interested in helping.
5. Our youth will be carrying the Cross at the first service.
6. Our next meeting will be Tues, Jan 2nd at 10:00am.

I'd like to thank my committee for all their help and ideas this past year. I'd also like to wish everyone a very Merry and blessed Christmas and a great 2018!!!

Roger Johnson, Chair

HAPPY★NEW★YEAR

W/ELCA NEWS

W/ELCA stands for Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. All women members of an ELCA church are automatically members of W/ELCA.

In 2017 the lives of many women were enriched by participation in the programs and activities of the women of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church. In our final event of the year, more than thirty women gathered for our Advent Luncheon on December 8. After we enjoyed the lunch and fellowship, Terri Osteen presented an informative program about Grand Living at Citrus Hills. The program was followed by a festive time singing Christmas carols. I want to especially thank Jeanne Kirk for her accompanying us on the organ.

More than \$750.00 was given to the Thankoffering on December 3. Your generosity will benefit the ministries and mission of the W/ELCA throughout the world.

We begin a new year of service with Soap Sunday on January 21 and 28, 2018. We ask for

donations of full sized bars of soap. These will be sent to Lutheran World Relief. On February 2, we invite anyone to join the W/ELCA Board at approximately 11:00 as we pack the LWR Kits and the beautiful quilts you saw on the pews in December.

Save the Date. On March 10, 2018, the women of the Pinelands Conference of the Florida-Bahamas Synod will hold their Spring Gathering. Watch for more information about this day of fellowship and worship in future newsletters.

Our board meetings are scheduled to be held on the first Monday of each month at 9:30 am. All women are invited to attend any of our board meetings. The first meeting of the new year will be on Jan. 8, 2016.

Anne Storan, W/ELCA President

HAPPY★NEW★YEAR

W/ELCA Circles

Mary-Martha Circle

Monday: January 8, 2018 at 9:30am

Hostess: TBD

Hostess: TBD

All ladies are welcome to attend!

Ruth-Naomi Circle

Wednesday: January 17, 2018 at 2:00 p.m.

Bible Study Leader: TBD

Hostess: Judy Teague

Priscilla Circle

Thursday: January 18, 2018 at 1:00 p.m.

Bible Study Leader: TBD

Hostess: TBD

All women are welcome to join us in Bible study and fellowship.

HAPPY★NEW★YEAR

Puzzle!

The 12 Old Testament books known as the Minor Prophets aren't unimportant — just short! Unscramble the names of these books. Then unscramble the circled letters to find a fruit of the Spirit.



Fruit: _____

LEJO _____

IHCAM _____

ABKUKKAH _____

DHAIABO _____

MUNAH _____

OAESH _____

AZAEHINPH _____

NJHAO _____

AGIAGH _____

OASM _____

AHRIZAHCE _____

IHCMALA _____

Answers: Joel, Micah, Habakkuk, Obadiah, Nahum, Hosea, Zephaniah, Jonah, Haggai, Amos, Zechariah, Malachi; Kindness

HAPPY★NEW★YEAR

A new you

The object of a New Year is not that we should have a new year. It is that we should have a new soul and a new nose; new feet, a new backbone, new ears, and new eyes. Unless a particular man made New Year resolutions, he would make no resolutions. Unless a man starts afresh about things, he will certainly do nothing effective.

—G.K. Chesterton

HAPPY★NEW★YEAR

FREE
GIVEAWAY



I have a Sears Treadmill free to anyone who can come and pick it up. Call Judy Teague at 352-435-5062.

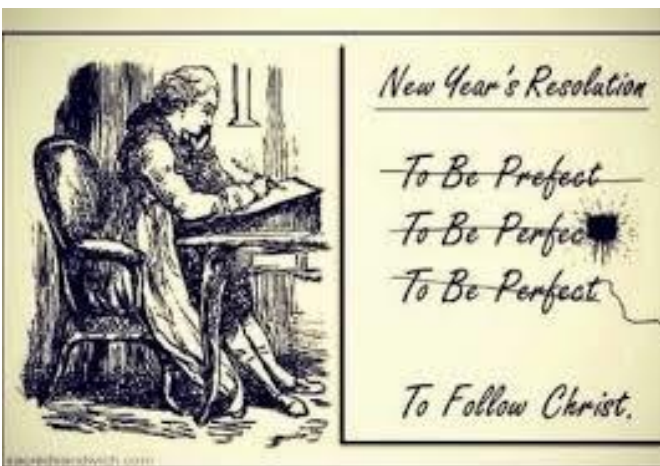
HAPPY★NEW★YEAR

~~oops!~~

From a worship bulletin:

HE CAN MOVE THE MOUNTAINS.
My God is mighty to shave.
Forever, author of salvation

Many people do picture God, who *saves*, with a beard!



Ode to volunteers

Many will be shocked to find when judgment nears, that there is a special place in heaven set aside for volunteers; furnished with big recliners, satin couches and footstools; where there's no committee chairman, no group leaders or carpools, no eager team that needs a coach, no bazaar and no bake sale; there will be nothing to staple; not one thing to fold or mail; telephone lists will be outlawed, but....a finger snap will bring cool drinks and gourmet dinners and rare treats fit for a king or queen. You ask, who'll serve those privileged few and work for all they're worth?

WHY, ALL THOSE WHO REAPED THE BENEFITS AND NOT ONCE VOLUNTEERED HERE ON EARTH.

Here is your chance to say yes NOW to be a Crucifer for one month of the year for the 8:30am service. Call or talk to Walt Seefeld 352-746-2417.

HAPPY★NEW★YEAR

Fellowship

Happy New Year! A new year and new beginnings. Speaking of new beginnings.... Starting next month, it has been approved by council that **Fellowship will host a single coffee hour between services.** There are several reasons to try this new format so we hope you will embrace it. It will be nice to see/meet those from the other service. We are one church, one family.

Questions have come to Fellowship about bringing a cake to coffee hour for a special event (i.e. someone's birthday). Please contact Gloria Peterson, Committee Chair, at 763-785-6910 to let her know when you would like to bring the cake. She will know if there is any

other special church events happening at coffee hour that day. Please remember to bring plates and plastic forks if possible. Also, let those working the kitchen know you brought a cake and would like it put out, but not to cut it if that is your preference.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS! The Annual Tag Sale will be held on Saturday, February 24, 2018, 8 AM (helpers arrive 7:30 AM) with set up on Friday, February 23, 8 AM. Sign-up sheets will be placed in the activities racks in the Narthex for volunteers for set up and working the day of the sale. We need many hands. Start setting aside items now to bring. The more we have, the more we sell and more money for charity. A brief meeting of helpers will be held between Sunday services on February 18, 2018.

The new year also gives opportunity to reflect on the past year and the Fellowship Committee's contribution to the church: Tag Sale, Lenten Soup Suppers, Rally Day, Pastor's Farewell Dinner, Feast for the 500th Dinner, refreshments for the Congregational Retreat, refreshments for the Teaching Event November 11, Advent Potluck Suppers, and sadly many funeral luncheons. We thank everyone who helped this past year. **We invite you to be a part of this valuable contribution to the church by joining the Fellowship Committee.** Please contact Gloria at the number above.

Betty Sanger, Secretary

HAPPY★NEW★YEAR

Angel Tree

Iwould like to thank all the members of Good Shepherd who sponsored an Angel this year. I started out with 25 angels and ordered 15 more and they were all sponsored and the gifts were delivered to the Resource

Continued...

Angel Tree continued...

Center. What a generous congregation we have at Good Shepherd! Citrus County Family Resource Center and I both thank you for your willingness to give to all the Angels in need. There is a new thank you certificate from the Family Resource Center in the Narthex on the Welcome shelf to the right of the entrance.

Amy Gilbert

HAPPY★NEW★YEAR

Father Christmas Ball

All the figures are not in yet, but the Ball brought in approximately \$15,000 to support Serving Our Savior Pantry.

Good Shepherd sold tickets for five full tables and there were additional donations from people who could not attend. Thank you all for supporting a very worthwhile ministry.

My thanks to Mary Krol and Lois Lenhart who did an excellent job of selling tickets and keeping me straight on the paperwork. I couldn't have done it without you.

Amy Gilbert

HAPPY★NEW★YEAR

Shoebox Delivery

Forty-eight (48) Operation Christmas Child shoe boxes were distributed to the countries of Benin, Chad, and Cameroon on the continent of Africa. Please continue to pray for the partners, the families and the children who will be participating in The Greatest Journey discipleship program.

Music Series for Winter, 2017-2018

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
439 E Norvell Bryant Hwy
Hernando, FL 34442



The Churchmen, Gospel Blue Grass Band

January 26, Friday 6pm

Johny Carlsson presents The Florida Dixie Kings in "A Swingin' Mardi Gras"

February 11, Sunday 3pm

Sponsors: Tom and Barbara Laing and Tom and Cara Stickler



(352)-527-0015 (352)-341-3515
Hernando, Florida Lecanto, Florida

For Information contact:

Angela Busler, 860-906-8723 (cell),
AMBusler@gmail.com

HAPPY★NEW★YEAR

Memorial and Special Gifts

The following memorial and special gifts were given during the month of December:

- To the Memorial Fund by Eric Hahn in memory of **Tim Richardson**.
- To the Memorial Fund by Frances Lowe in memory of **Hilda Campbell**.
- To the Enduring Gifts Fund by Sandy Jackson in memory of **Betty Wheatley**.

Continued...

- To the Memorial Fund by Fred & Beverly Brockschmidt in memory of **Richard Wagner**.
- To the General Fund by Alma Day in memory of **Tim Richrdson**.
- To the General Fund by Sheryl Paparella in memory of **Terry Drosz**.
- To the Mortgage Fund by Larry & Colleen Saur in memory of **Joe Wilhelmy**.
- To the General Fund by Aagot Green in memory of **all members lost in 2017**.

HAPPY★NEW★YEAR



Joseph Wilhelmy



September 28, 1939 – December 3, 2017



Timothy Lee Richardson



September 2, 1932 – December 7, 2017



Terry Drosz



March 7, 1942 – December 10, 2017



Richard G. Wagner



November 7, 1937 – December 14, 2017



Burnell "Bud" Engle



June 26, 1935 – December 22, 2017

LETTERS OF THANKS



Dear Good Shepherd Lutheran Church:

Thank you so much for participating in our Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Collection. We are so thankful for your dedication and support of this ministry.

May God bless you and we look forward to seeing you again next year.

In His Service,
Janice Sizemore, Volunteer
Samaritan's Purse

HAPPY★NEW★YEAR

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to everyone at this beautiful Christian church. What a great choir musical today! Thank you to all for the love and support you've shown me throughout the year.

Thank you Pastors Johnson and Barrett.

Love in Christ,
Karen Monsen

HAPPY★NEW★YEAR

The Bread Lady

As we come into the year 2018 with hope and joy for the future, let us be reminded of the people here in Citrus County who are more fortunate than most. Consider giving your time to one of the oldest outreach missions we have, namely – Bread and Food Share. Picking up at Publix or

delivering to Cub or the Resource Center each week for a month takes one hour each week. Call me at 637-2663 or sign-up on the clipboard located in the activities rack in the Narthex.

Gerri Fallanca

HAPPY★NEW★YEAR

Where is she now?



Judy is relocating to Maryland. Her new contact information after January 15th will be:

Judy Heikkinen

The Beacon at Waugh Chapel
1433 South Main Chapel Way Apt. B106
Gambrills, MD 21054
Cell phone: 352-212-5871

HAPPY★NEW★YEAR

Thrivent Choice Dollars

The following Thrivent Financial for Lutherans members have directed this month's Choice Dollars be given to Good Shepherd:

Anne R. Storan

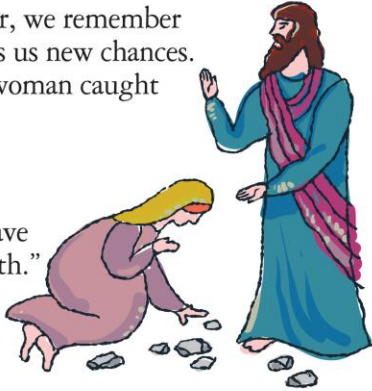
Mary E. Wagner

Thank you for your gift.

?? Bible Quiz ??

At the start of a new year, we remember that God continually gives us new chances. What does Jesus say to a woman caught in adultery?

- A. "Go, and from now on sin no more."
- B. "Not even in Israel have I found such great faith."
- C. "Peace be with you."
- D. "Tell no one what I have done for you."



Answer: See John 8:11

HAPPY★NEW★YEAR

Hilltoppers

The Hilltoppers enjoyed a wonderful afternoon of good food, good friends and good fellowship at Charlie's Fish House in Crystal River when we last met in November.

Our next outing will be Friday, January 19th when we will dine at Cinnamon Sticks in Inverness.

If you would like to join us, we will carpool from the church at 12:30pm. Don't forget to call Thelma Ewell at 746-1160 with your reservation.

HAPPY★NEW★YEAR

The Quilting Group

On December 1st six ladies and one man put 85 quilts on the pews and chairs in the Narthex. We thank Linda F., Winnie B., Nancy J., Judy T., Carol H., my husband, Jim and me. We also thank the men from the

property committee for bringing the boxes of quilts into the sanctuary for us.

On December 7th, seven quilters took the quilts off the pews and we counted and boxed them for shipping. We have 13 boxes with 89 quilts ready for shipping in February. Afterwards six quilters and one sewer quilted three quilts; we then stopped for lunch and delicious banana splits for dessert. We cleaned up early and went on our way. Gerry took six more youth quilts to the Family Resource Center for Christmas gifts.

We want to thank Judy T. for making five baby quilts and Linda F. for ten full tops and Aagot Green for donated fabric and, of course, to those unknown 'helpers' who put sheets and fabric in our closet.

We also have a new lady, Pat, that joined our group. We are very happy to have her.

In January we'll meet twice on the 3rd and 17th. Come and join us as we quilt and pack more quilts for shipping. Bring your lunch and dessert; coffee is provided.

Questions: call Gerry @ 637-2412.

HAPPY★NEW★YEAR

Craft 'N Share

Come join us Wednesday, January 24, 2018 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. or as your time allows. Bring your lunch; beverages and dessert will be provided.

We will continue with our various projects, cutting adult clothing protectors, making pillowcase dress kits and cutting sani-pads to sew for the Little Dresses for Africa project.

We will start a new project: baby blankets or hats for newborns for the maternity ward of Citrus Memorial. We've heard that many times babies are born in need of blankets to carry them home. We will have patterns for anyone

Continued...

who would like to knit or crochet these.

We received 5 new lovely prayer shawls from Eloise M. Several shawls and lap robes have also been delivered in the past month. Please note, if you need a shawl or lap robe to deliver to someone who is ill, in rehab, hospital or is grieving, we have MOVED THE BINS for SHAWLS and LAP ROBES to the left side of the right hand closet in the rear of Fellowship Hall, making it easier for you to access them

In November, we made 40 Advent candle bookmarks for W/ELCA's Advent Luncheon and filled the red plaid pouches with a felt and button Christmas tree ornament for our GSLC shut-ins which were delivered by Eucharistic Ministers and we thank them for that!!

JOIN US WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 24 from 10am to 2pm for a chat while we work.

Questions, call Maggie 860-2215.

HAPPY★NEW★YEAR

**Publix
Saturday Night
Pick-Up**

Cliff & Ann Possinger

**Food Share
Monday Delivery**

Cliff & Ann Possinger

HAPPY★NEW★YEAR

*"Darkness cannot drive out darkness;
only light can do that.
Hate cannot drive out hate;
only love can do that."
—Martin Luther King Jr.*

Annual Reports

Committee annual reports are due in the church office no later than Friday, *January 19, 2018*. All committee chairpersons are responsible for submitting a report for the upcoming Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting on January 28th.

HAPPY★NEW★YEAR

Special dates

- New Year's Day, *January 1, 2018*
- Epiphany, *January 6, 2018*
- Baptism of the Lord, *January 7, 2018*
- Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday, *January 15, 2018*
- Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting, *January 28, 2018*,

HAPPY★NEW★YEAR

NAMI NEWS

NAMI Citrus has been fortunate to have a "home" at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church for seventeen years, and we are so grateful!

At our monthly general meetings we have a speaker, usually on topics of general interest, to which we extend a special invitation to anyone from this church. We will meet again in January on the 8th. Doors open at 6:15pm with the speaker beginning at 6:30pm.

We look forward to hearing a word from the head of the Citrus County Human Resources Department, which has three different sections and which any of us might wish to avail ourselves of.

A warm welcome and refreshments awaiting!

Marilyn Booth, President, NAMI Citrus









SEMI-ANNUAL CONGREGATION MEETING

**SUNDAY
JANUARY 28, 2018
10:45 AM**

**One Service
9:30 AM**

JANUARY 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 New Year's Day 	2 8:00A – Breakfast 9:00A – Exec Council 10:00A – Worship & Music 11:30A – AA	3 8:00A- SOS 10:00A – Quilters 7:00 P - Choir	4 8:30A – SOS 12:00P - Pizza	5 7:30A – Workday on Grounds 	6
7	8 9:30A – W/ELCA Board 9:30A – Mary Martha Circle 10:00A – Bud Engle Funeral 1:30P – Fellowship 6:30P- NAMI 7:00P – Council	9 8:00A – Breakfast 9:00A – Pastoral Care 11:30A – AA	10 8:00A-SOS	11 8:30A – SOS	12 7:30A – Workday on Grounds 	13
14 9:45A – Christian Ed W/ELCA Coffee, Tea & Cocoa Sale	15 1:30P – Social Ministry  7:00P - Cards	16 8:00A – Breakfast 10:00/A – Christian Ed 11:30A – AA 7:00P - Scouts	17 8:00A-SOS 10:00A - Quilters 2:00P – Ruth Naomi Circle 6:00P - Bells 7:00 P - Choir	18 8:30A – SOS 1:00P – Priscilla Circle	19 7:30A – Workday on Grounds  1:00P- Hilltoppers	20
21 9:45A – Christian Ed W/ELCA SOAP SUNDAY  Newsletter Deadline	22	23 8:00A-Breakfast 11:30A – AA 7:00P - Scouts	24 8:00A-SOS 10:00A – Craft 'N Share 6:00P – Bells 7:00P – Choir	25 8:30A- SOS	26 7:30A – Workday on Grounds  6:00P –Citrus Community Concert Choir	27
28 9:30A – Single Worship 10:45A – Semi-Annual Congregation Meeting W/ELCA SOAP SUNDAY 2:30P – Life Care Center	29	30 8:00A-Breakfast 11:30A – AA 7:00P - Scouts	31 8:00A-SOS 6:00P – Bells 7:00P – Choir			

Sunday worship is at 8:30am & 11:00am unless otherwise noted.

A single coffee hour will take place between services until further notice.

JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES AND BIRTHDAYS



Jack & Nancy Gomes
Tom & Betty Berbert
Mike & Maggie Kirkeby

01/01/83
01/08/68
01/17/14



1– Lenore Deck

3 – Tom Berbert

6 – Adam Gray
Marion McGauran

7 – Connie Adams
Joyce McCracken

11– Harv Johnson
Dell Peterson

12 – Carol Herbst
Nate Williams

13 – Walter Maidhof

14 – George Bendtsen

15 – Jean Lobenthal
Ann Neville
Cindy Towne

16 – Mike Maksymicz

17 – Chuck Cwiklinski
Carol Colson
Ken Drennen
James Klingerman

18 – Barbara Driest
Fran Stetson
Randy Wagner

19 – Analiese Heinz
Wesley Heinz

23 – Colleen Garvin
Dorothy Klingerman

24 – Pr. Dave Bradford
Jeff Kopp

25 – Gisela Vos
Leslie Olson

27 – Gene Yoho
Sue Fowler

29 – Mary Jo Schroeder

30 – Jim Kauth
Sandra Jernberg

31 – Mary Wagner

MONTHLY COMMITTEE DUTIES

JANUARY 7, 14, 21, 28

ALTAR & COMMUNION

Eloise Mongardi
Gladys Kean
Pat Wolff

FLOWER DISTRIBUTION

TBD

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Paula Pritzl
Sue Fowler

MONEY COUNTERS

Len Martin, Lead
Kay Martin
Aagot Green

GREETERS

8:30AM

11:00AM

January 7

TBD

TBD

January 14

TBD

Norma Engle

January 21

TBD

TBD

January 28

ASSISTING MINISTER

8:30AM

11:00AM

January 7

Lisbeth Goetter

Vera Swade

January 14

Margot Berger

Lisbeth Goetter

January 21

Bob Bonomo

Lisbeth Goetter

January 28 – 9:30am Single Worship

Bob Bonomo

ACOLYTES

CRUCIFER

Alma Day

USHERS

8:30AM

11:00AM

Gary Knecht, Lead
Joann Frost
Lois Lenhart
Bill Mehnert

Jack Motts, Lead
Nancy Gomes
Gerry Kauth

NURSERY

8:30AM

11:00AM

Susan Fowler



*(Please let the church office know if a name has been removed
that should remain on this list, or if a name should be added.)*

Let us remember:

Boerger, Dave
Brockschmidt, Fred, Beverly
Clark, Dawn
Cwiklinski, Chuck
Dreger-Parsons, June
Durr, John
Engle, Norma
Fallanca, Gerri
Fosse, Barbara
Gifford, Melissa
Halstead, Deborah
Hahn, Eric

Hartsfield, Sylvia
Hester, Marty
Hickey, Madelyn
Hoell, Herb & Lucille
Johnson, Brad
Kohm, Bob, Dianne
Kuebler, George
Maidhof, Helen
Maksymicz, Mike & Shirley
Mandell, Sheila
McCracken, Joyce
Morelli, Heike

Morgan, Pat
Orndorff, Wayne
Page-Wood, Jeremy & Esther
Peterson, Gloria
Richardson, Janet
Roth-Arena, Katherine, Adan
Saari, Sandy
Wagner, Adrian
Wagner, Mary
Wheatley, Frank

Those who are shut-in or residing in assisted living homes:

Dick, Phyllis
Frost, Anna
Hedin, Arlyn

King, Evelyn
Liddy, Danny
Makuch, Elsie

Sagin, Paul
Taylor, Lillian

All who serve our country in the military:

Boudreaux, Annie
Burba, Jake
Ceballos, Jason
Cwicklinski, C.J.
Day, Kenneth
Fosse, Jr., Paul
Gaertner, Jerrod
Harrington, Bryan
Heikkinen, Jacob
Hickman, Richard
Holman, Evan

Jackson, Brad
Johnston-Garcia, Christian
Luchay, Alan
Martin, Aaron
McCann, Jim
Mehringer, Michael
Moore, Andy
Moore, Ian
Moore, John
Muchow, Jason
Osborn-Herdman, Christopher

Piott, Trenton
Posa, Codymichael
Radloff, Steven
Radosevitch, Eric
Seefeld, Jessica
Springer, Jr., Dennis
Stroble, Jeramy
Swain, Jr., Terry
Thompson, David
Timpe, Chris
Walton, Leslie

Relatives and Friends:

Ailor, Earle	Green, William	Rambaldini, Jim
Balastieri, Casey	Grossman, James	Roberts, Rachel
Bell, Ian	Haas, Andrea	Robinson, Deanna
Bentley, Pat	Halstead, Nichole & Susan	Romanelli, Anthony
Blyth, Ruby	Hanzel, Samantha	Sanger, Carol, Ruth
Boucher, Phyllis	Hickman, Daryl	Schapers, Brant
Brockschmidt, Brian	Kamm, Mike & Nancy	Scheetz, Cathy & family
Campano, Thomas	Kraft, Carter	Scheltens, Lynn
Campbell, Bill	Lavaja, Jim	Sillen, Lucille
Cipollone, Elaine	Lepley, Joann	Slater, Casstella
Clarke, Father Peter	Lewellen, Emily Anne	Small, Brenda & Steven
Clarke, Charlotte	Lincicome, Deanna	Soltays, Carolyn
Collins, Keri	Loftin, Tracy	Stuart, Neil & family
Collins, Pat	Lorenzen, Lorraine	Tankka, Tom
Crawford, Cleola	Kelly, Nancy	Taylor, Barbara
Dille, Jim	Krol, Peter	Traywick, Edward
Dortin, Rachel	Magri, Antoinette	Tuegel, Chuck
Dulberg, Joseph & Marybeth	Mahr-Bradshaw, Mary Beth	Turner, Bob
Erickson, Clay	Maidhof, Dexter Gary	Van Bennekom, Neyda
Fisher, Kacey	Maidhof, Jeremiah	Walker family
Florentine, Jerry	McHugh, Mark	Walton, Leslie
Gaertner, Kent	McPhee, John	Wilder, Gayle
Galliher, Holly	Meslow, Sandy	Wilkens family
Gangi, Steve	Mock, Beth & Nelson	Williams, Dorothy
Garling, John	Musick, John	Wittmann family
Gibboney, Nancy	O'Berry, Darlene	Woods, Donna Jean
Gibson, Jeanné	Oehl, Lita	Woolf, Nick
Gifford, Diane	Pelnar, Barb	Wright, Matthew
Goetter, Tom, Whitney	Pretre, Jack	Wyzard, Joe & Dana
Goforth, Jeffrey	Priselac, Lorrie	
Gradeless, Marge	Pulice, Sal	

Please take this prayer list, and use it in your private or family devotions in the coming month.

You can see that our congregation has a great many people who are in need of our prayers. We will continue to pray for those folks for as long as they need our prayers. However, please call the church office by the third Sunday of the month to ask that your loved one or friend remain on the prayer list – otherwise we will joyfully assume that they are well once more, and with thanks to God, remove their names from this list.

January, 2018



NEW YEAR'S NOISE- MAKERS

Ring in the New Year with these fun noisemakers!



What you need:

- Wooden craft sticks
- Metallic paint (gold and silver)
- Paint brushes
- Jingle bells (gold and silver)
- Hot glue gun
- Metallic ribbon
- Scissors
- Adult help

What you do:

1. Paint half the sticks gold and half silver. Let dry.
2. Glue three bells to each stick.
3. Cut a six-inch piece of ribbon for each stick. Tie a bow and glue it to the noisemaker. Celebrate!



A NEW CREATION



The apostle Paul says everyone who believes in Jesus becomes brand new.

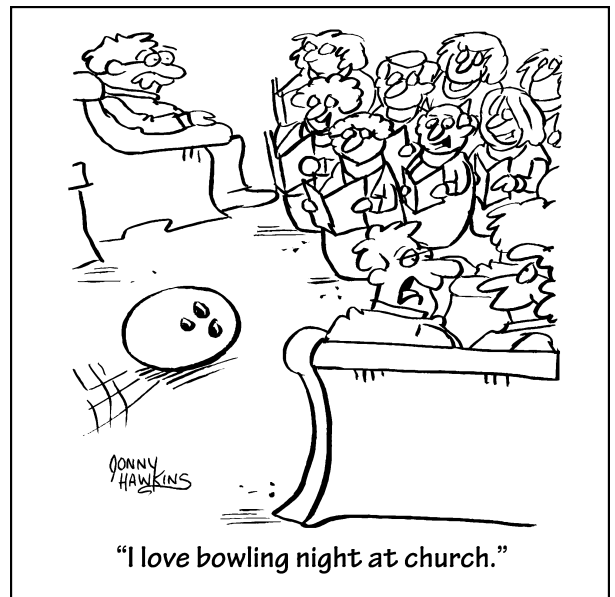


Directions: Cross out every third letter. Then write the remaining letters in the blanks to complete 2 Corinthians 5:17, NIV.

T H I E R O E F Q O R X E I D F A M N Y A O N
S E I L S I T N C V H R K I S D T T B H E W N E
Q W C D R E Y A T M I O C N H F A S W C O R
M E G T H W E O F L D X H A S S G Z O N L
E T J H E W N E Q W I D S H R E R O E

_____, _____
_____, _____
_____: _____
_____, _____
_____! 2 CORINTHIANS 5:17, NIV

Answer: Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! 2 Corinthians 5:17, NIV



"I love bowling night at church."



CHURCH STAFF

The Rev. Felice Johnson, Interim Pastor

Office: 746-7161 * Fax: 746-5013

Cell: 321-501-4303

E-mail: felice47@tampabay.rr.com

Visitation Pastor

Rev. Bill Barrett

Cell: 419-5242

E-mail: pastorbill96@hotmail.com

Administrative Assistant

Shirley McField

Home: 344-3566

E-mail: gschurch@live.com

STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Building / Property

Jack Motts 746-3285

Christian Education

Tom Clutz 465-8246

Enduring Gifts

Bob Bonomo 746-8173

Evangelism

Nate Williams 897-4851

Fellowship

Gloria Peterson 465-1018

Finance

Louise Osborn 746-2405

Mutual Ministry

Harv Johnson 270-3391

Pastoral Care

Randy Wagner 270-8485

Social Ministry

Vera Swade 637-5308

Stewardship

Audrey Shepard 765-667-1268

Worship & Music

Roger Johnson 746-7321

COUNCIL LIAISONS

Building /Property

Dell Peterson 465-1018

Christian Education

Jack Wolff 560-7386

Christian Education - YOUTH

Angela Schenk 445-7861

Enduring Gifts

Bill Mehnert 513-4624

Evangelism

Dick Hildebrandt 527-0445

Fellowship

Phyllis Powell 270-4495

Finance

Kathy Swartz 746-5374

Mutual Ministry

Gail Sotrines 860-1765

Pastoral Care

Eric Hahn 344-5575

Social Ministry

Gladys Kean 527-4663

Stewardship

Mike Busler 423-4704

Worship & Music

Dan Cashman 419-4356

WEBSITE

gshernando.org

Join our Web Team!

gslcwebcalendar@gmail.com



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