



The Shepherd's Voice

December, 2019

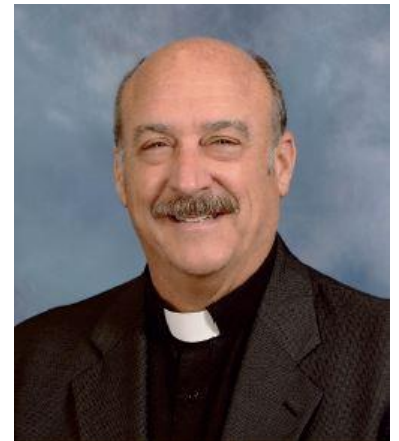
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church (ELCA), 439 E. Norvell Bryant Hwy., Hernando, FL

Pastor's Page

Happy New Year! What? Yes, you read that correctly. In the church it is a new year. The church year is not like the calendar year. The church year begins with the First Sunday in Advent. This year Advent begins on December 1. So, Happy New Year.

The season of Advent is a short season of waiting in darkness and longing for the light; thoughtful repentance and pregnant expectation; remembering, savoring, and hoping for God's coming. This makes Advent different than the season of Christmas. Advent is the season that most acknowledges our human condition of longing, waiting, and restlessness. Since Christmas often stirs up a combination of anticipation, anxiety, and excitement, it sometimes gets the differences between Advent and Christmas seasons blurred.

I ask you to remember that Advent is not Christmas Lite. You do not know how many people over the last 21 years have asked me to celebrate Christmas during Advent. Please don't ask me that question. "But Pastor, everybody else does?" No, they don't and most of those "everybody else" are retail businesses that want your money! They don't care about you. They only care about what is in your wallet or your pocketbook.



This month listen to the words. Take in the images. We will light the Advent Wreath Candles each week as the church has done for centuries. We also have some new banners for Advent. See if you notice anything interesting with the banners from week to week. How is that for anticipation?

Each week our readings during worship will be coming from the words of the prophet Isaiah and the Gospel of Matthew with some of Paul's words to the Church in Rome added to the fray. Week one we will hear Isaiah tell of the future day when our God will establish a universal reign of peace. Paul will compare the second coming of Jesus with the coming of a new dawn. In week two we will hear Isaiah tell of the new "Peaceable Kingdom". In week three we will hear of the desert rejoicing and blooming and of a farmer waiting in patience for crops to grow. And finally in week four we will hear of the word of the Lord given to King Ahaz of the kingdom of Judah telling Ahaz that human attempts to establish security will fail. The prophet gives the sign that is the only true source of safety: Immanuel, God is with us! These texts will be calling for a time of mindfulness and living the present while, at the same time, they are speaking (with eager anticipation) of the end of the world at some time in the future. Something that is very foreign in our age of instant gratification. So, how is that for anticipation?

That does not mean that longing for what we need or don't have is wrong. The idea of "longing" is part of the human condition. We are always wishing we could delay aging, go back to a certain time in our lives and relive it, or live in an unrealistic ideal situation. The problem is that when we do this we fail to embrace fully

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the present and what is. Advent puts before us this great mystery: We wait for what we already have. Advent is about the now and the not yet. I invite you to see anew Jesus coming again and again. See if you can experience this as we gather Wednesday evenings in Advent for worship at 7:00 pm, and in what we do Sunday after Sunday, day after day, not only in the Word and Sacrament of Worship on Sunday, but in the sacredness of everyday life. It is like the words to the refrain from the hymn, *"The Canticle of the Turning"* (ELW #723) which say, *"My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your justice burn. Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is about to turn."*

Oh, and that thing about celebrating Christmas, come see me on December 24th.

Pastor Dennis



The following are highlights from the November Council meeting:

- **JANUARY 19th** - One Service at 9:30 a.m., Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting to follow immediately after the service.
- **FEBRUARY 28-29** - Tag Sale set up **28th** from 8 a.m.-12 p.m.
 - **29th**, Tag Sale Day from 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.
- **APRIL 10th**, Good Friday Fish Dinner - 5:30 p.m.
- **AUGUST 23rd** - Rally Day and One Service at 9:30 a.m., Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting to follow immediately after the service.
- **SEPTEMBER 19th** - BBQ

The next Council meeting is Sunday, December 15, 2019 at 12:30 p.m.



Applying Biblical Principles

When he was president of InterVarsity Christian Fellowship, Gordon MacDonald said, "One of the greatest missing teachings in the American church today is the reminder to men and women that nothing we have belongs to us."

We own nothing. We have been given material means to use, but not to own. All that we have belongs to God. God is our Source according to Psalm 62:5. We are only managers and stewards of what God has entrusted to us.

Because all that we have belongs to God, and because he gives us the ability to obtain wealth, every spending decision is in reality a spiritual decision. According to First Corinthians 10:31, our constant goal must be to glorify God in all of life, including how we use his resources.

Stephen Olford wrote this: "... man's chief end is 'to glorify God and to enjoy him forever.' We are to glorify God by our worshipful praise (Psalm 50:23). We are to glorify him by our consistent fruit bearing (John 15:8). We are to glorify him by our spiritual unity (Rom. 15:6). We are to glorify him by our entire dedication (1 Cor. 6:20). And we are to glorify him by our good works (Matt. 5:16). In this

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last category is included the matter of giving. Only in this way can we provide for 'honest things in the sight of the Lord.' The glory of God should motivate us to give and to give our best."

If our goals and ambitions are truly set on spiritual things, if our emphasis in life is to glorify God, we will use the funds he has "loaned" to us on a temporary basis to glorify him. We will put his money and possessions to good use by giving to his work and by storing up "treasures in heaven" (Matt. 6:19-21).

There are two key questions to be asked concerning money and possessions: First, are you glorifying God in how you are using the money and possessions God has entrusted to you? And second, are you viewing these things as yours or as God's?



Worship and Music



Several important things were covered at our November meeting:

OLD Business:

1. Harv Johnson is looking for an electrical company to check if our church has the electrical grounds to protect our buildings. Still in process.
2. Pastor is working on columbarium for Memorial Garden, still in progress.
3. Starting Dec. 1st we will be changing to Setting 8 for Advent.
4. Jane Isenstead and the possibility of an art auction will be worked out by Evangelism.

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1.) Loud pop every time organ is turned on and off. Did have power surge on 10/28/19 during a Storm. Will call & have Roger's organ tech come and take a look at and give a price for

insurance. Will look a better surge protector and get one.

- 2.) Piano dolly for our grand piano, for better moving without stress on legs of piano. Best price for dolly \$682.50. There is money left in music budget for purchase. ACTION item for Council. Pastor to bring up.
 - 3.) Thanksgiving service Tuesday, November 26 at 7:00 P.M.
 - 4.) 1st Sunday in Advent Dec. 1.
 - 5.) Midweek advent services at 7:00 P.M., Dec. 4, 11, 18. The Holden Evening Prayer Service will be used.
 - 6.) Christmas Eve Service 5 & 7:30 P.M.
 - 7.) Christmas Day service 10:00 A.M.
 - 8.) Children's Christmas program Dec. 8, early service.
 - 9.) Chancel/Early morning singers choir Christmas program both services Dec 15th.
- Meeting was concluded with the Lord's Prayer:

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, Dec. 3rd at 10:00A.M.

Roger Johnson, Chair



W/ELCA NEWS

We invite the congregation to join W/ELCA in observance of Thankoffering Sunday on December 1st. Thank offerings are given to support the life-changing ministries of the Women of the ELCA. Together, we do more than we could ever do apart. In gratitude for all God has given to us, and with hope for all that is to come, let us now give our Thankoffering. Please make checks payable to Women of the ELCA. Also on this day, the quilts made throughout the year for Lutheran World Relief and for local needs will be on display in the sanctuary. Pastor Koch will bless the quilts for the comfort and love which they provide. W/ELCA officers and circle leaders will be installed during the services.

All women of Good Shepherd are invited to the Advent Luncheon on Friday, December 13, from

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12:00 to 2:00. The luncheon will be provided by Joe's Deli at a cost of \$10.00 per person. The W/ELCA officers and circle leaders will present the program, **Light in December**. Anne Storan will recognize the valuable service of the outgoing officers and circle leaders who have served so well. The election of new officers will be officially ratified. Please plan to join us for this time to celebrate Advent with your sisters in Christ. Sign up in the Narthex by December 9th.

The women of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church are busy gathering the items needed to assemble kits for Lutheran World Relief. We collect the kits in January so that we can pack them on the second Monday in February. If you would like to share in this important ministry, you can pick up a list of required items from the WELCA bulletin board in the fellowship hall, and put your donated items or completed kits in the red-topped bin in the WELCA closet.

The Florida-Bahamas Synodical Women held their fall gathering, "Come to the Table," at Lake Yale Baptist Conference Center November 8-10. Cindy Gaertner was the voting member elected to represent the women of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church. We worshipped together. We sang together. We prayed together. We shared a fellowship filled with joy and compassion.

The December board meeting will be December 2, 1:00 pm (Please note time change)

Anne Storan
President, W/ELCA



Welcome to the Table was the W/ELCA fall gathering theme at Lake Wales in Leesburg, Florida on November 8, 9 and 10th. Cindy Gaertner attended along with 162 delegates from other churches in Florida. A report will be submitted to Pastor Dennis and the W/ELCA board.



Altar Guild

Ladies of the church. We are planning a meeting between services on December 8th to address the calendar for next year. We will also go over any possible changes.

Please consider this service as an outlet for your love of God. We ask that you sign up for a month at a time. You will NEVER work alone. This is a chance to meet ladies from a service you do not attend and if things were perfect we would have 2 from each service. This requires 1/2 an hour on Saturday for setup and about 15 minutes between services. Second service people only need to come Saturday morning and after second service for clean-up.

Any questions please ask me, Ann Neville, or Alma Day.



Fellowship

As we approach the end of the year, we look forward to our Wednesday Advent potlucks and church services on December 4, 11, and 18th. Sign-up sheets are in the narthex to indicate attendance. If bringing a dish, please indicate if it is a main entree, salad, vegetable or dessert, which helps others in deciding what to bring. Please note on the sign-up sheets that desserts are limited as indicated on page 3.

After the New Year, start cleaning out your house of items to donate to the February 29, 2020, Tag Sale. More details will be coming. The monies raised will go to support the Citrus County Education Foundation, which funds local schooling projects that benefit Citrus County students.

If you haven't checked-out the newly renovated kitchen, please come by on Sunday and we will give you a tour and a cup of coffee! The Committee is still working on the set-up. We need to "live" in the kitchen awhile to make final decisions on where items should go.

To all who use the kitchen for the various church

Continued...

Fellowship continued...

activities, please remember to take care of it as you would your own. We want this beautiful kitchen to last as long as the last one! Please feel free to see or contact me if you have any questions when using the kitchen.

Betty Sanger, Chair
(betty.sanger@mindspring.com); 352-527-1630



Evangelism

NEIGHBOR-TO-NEIGHBOR (NTN)

NTN is a program that came about from feedback information obtained through the CATCH program. Many attendees of the CATCH sessions felt that an important factor in growing our church membership is having a friendly church that local visitors would want to join.

To start small, we are inviting people who attend the Advent potlucks and coffee hours to meet other members by choosing seats according to where we live. We've broken up the map into four sections (Northeast/Northwest/ Southeast/Southwest) using the church as the center point. We'll be designating tables for the different areas. We'll also put a list of ice-breaker questions at the table that will help us get to know other members.

So, if anyone doesn't come to the Advent potlucks or coffee hours because they don't have anyone to sit with, come now and sit with your "neighbors." Of course, you can sit wherever you like, with whomever you please. This is just a suggestion to consider when choosing a place to sit.



Merry Christmas



From our family to yours!

Dennis, Linda, Michael and Ginger

Adopt A Highway

Our first Adopt-A-Highway Road Clean-up was a success! Thirty-one people showed up to pick up trash along a 2.25 mile stretch of Norvell Bryant Highway last month. Thank you to everyone who participated and collected more than 25 bags of trash! Our next clean-up will be Saturday, February 1 at 8:00 am. Sign-ups will begin in January. Linda Koch



Stewardship

Dear Friend in Christ,

No season of the year is quite like Christmas. Most of us have wonderful memories of happy family gatherings, coming home to the smell of fresh-baked cookies, the Christmas tree, the church decorated with evergreens and poinsettias, and wonderful music of the season. As a contemporary musical proclaims, "It's the most wonderful time of the year!" That's especially true of those of us who call ourselves "Christians."

We get our name from the name of the Savior born in Bethlehem. Believers in that Savior were first called "Christians" or "Christ's Ones" at Antioch. Through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, we are "Christ's Ones." We belong to him for time and for eternity. We are "Christ's Ones" because the Father sent the Son to be the Savior of the world (1 John 4:14).

And that's why we give gifts at Christmas. When we give gifts, we are commemorating the greatest gift

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Stewardship continued...

of all, the gift of the Lord Jesus Christ to be our Savior. And that's also why we give gifts to the Lord. Not because "poor God" needs our help to pay the bills. Not because, well, after all, it is Jesus' birthday, so we should give the Guest of Honor a present. None of that is what motivates us in our giving.

We give out of hearts of gratitude for the gift of the Lord Jesus Christ. We give out of hearts of love because Christ has redeemed us and given us a new name, that of Christians. We give in response to God's love for us, knowing all that we have belongs to God.

As we come to the end of the year, the needs here at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church are great, but as we join together in a sacrifice of praise to God through a special Christmas offering, the needs can be met in full — and more. Thanks for prayerfully considering your response to God's love for you and for giving as God enables and leads in your life. May the joy of the Christ-child who became our Savior be yours.

Yours in Christ,
Shelly Fortin, Stewardship Chairperson



Poinsettias time

It's that time of year again! 45 poinsettias have been ordered and will help to beautify our church during the Christmas season. Envelopes are available on the table in the Narthex for anyone wanting to purchase one of these plants. Please complete one envelope for each plant purchased. Because the quantity of plants ordered is limited, we ask that you only take an envelope if you intend to purchase a plant. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

If you have any questions, call Jane Isenstead at 513-4205.



Winter Music Series 2019-2020

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



Al Ernst, Carnival Cruise "Entertainer of the Year" Comedy

December 1, Sunday, 2pm

Good Shepherd Children's Christmas Program

December 8, Sunday 8:30am Service. NO CHARGE!

Good Shepherd Musical Christmas Offering

December 15, Sunday 8:30am & 11am Service. NO CHARGE!

Nothin' Fancy Bluegrass

January 19, Sunday 3pm

Johny Carlsson & the Florida Dixie Kings'

"A Swingin' Mardi Gras"

February 23, Sunday 3pm

The Churchmen, Gospel Bluegrass

March 15, Sunday 3pm

Special Consensus, Bluegrass

April 17, Friday 7pm

Tickets for each concert are \$10 at the door.

Sponsors: Tom and Barb Laing



(352)-527-0015 (352)-341-3515

Hernando, Florida Lecanto, Florida

For Information contact:

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



SOS??

I'm a relatively new member of the Good Shepherd community, having attended services here for now a little more than one year. I've

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met a lot of nice people and some have taken me under their wing to help settle me into church life. There is a lot going on at the church and lots of ways to get involved. I've had little difficulty in understanding the purpose of the various church activities... that is except one – SOS! My initial impression caused me to think it was a “women's sewing circle”- not something of interest to me... Boy was I wrong!

SOS is far from a women's sewing circle. Its initials stand for “Serving Our Savior” and its aim is to provide food for the needy of Citrus County. It was formed 18 years ago by ten local churches including Good Shepherd. It now provides high quality food supplies to some 130 to 150 local family units each week, touching the lives of more than 400 individuals. The food is donated to SOS by local merchants, grocery store chains, and national charities, or is purchased by SOS. It includes fresh vegetables and fruit, bread, milk and a broad range of meats, including turkey, chicken, ham, ground beef, and fish. I have been involved with church run food pantries in the past, but nothing I've witnessed compares to the sheer scope and magnitude of the SOS operation. It is truly remarkable.

The “client” recipients come in all sizes and shapes, each with his/her own unique circumstances. Many are elderly who are living on fixed incomes that no longer cover their living requirements in today's economy; many are disabled and can't participate in the workforce; many are single parents trying to make ends meet for their families; many are working low paying jobs and are in need of supplementing their incomes to meet their families' needs; and more than what one might expect there are some who have lost their employment and need temporary support until they find new employment. The hardships facing most of these people are soul searching. I can still remember, during my first time as a volunteer with SOS, a man in his 40s with a limp telling me that his limited income wasn't sufficient for him to live on, and if it weren't for SOS he couldn't afford to eat. SOS serves as a lifeline for many, a lifeline they can count on. Without exception they are all very appreciative for what they receive.

All this activity performed by SOS is carried out

right here at our very own church, Good Shepherd. The Fellowship Hall is used for a gathering and processing place for clients, and the walls are lined with long tables of perishable food supplies and non-food items. The back parking area is used as a dispensary for frozen and refrigerated food as well as other food items. You may have noticed a series of shed like buildings at the lower end of the of the parking area. These are for storage of refrigerated and frozen food needed for distribution on Thursdays. On Wednesdays, truck loads of food are brought to the area and the sheds are packed to full capacity.

It takes approximately 40 volunteers to make the entire SOS operation run smoothly. These volunteers come mainly from the ten participating church organizations. The work is steady and sometimes hectic, but manageable for most people. New volunteers are always needed and welcomed in meeting the needs of the organization. And, if you are looking for a way to get more involved with church activities, I would highly recommend that you become an SOS volunteer. The hours of operation are from 8am to 10:30am on Thursdays, and you can pick and choose on what days you participate. No formal sign-up is necessary, merely show up and you will be put to work.

I recently completed my ninth consecutive session as a volunteer at SOS, and I've loved it. And as I made my way home following each of these sessions, I made it a point to think back upon the needy people I met that day. I tried remembering the brief interactions I had with them – hearing their stories, sharing mutual interests, and sometimes joking with them. The experience seemed to cause my heart to smile. It was a good feeling, as was the feeling knowing that the Lord was smiling too.

Anonymous



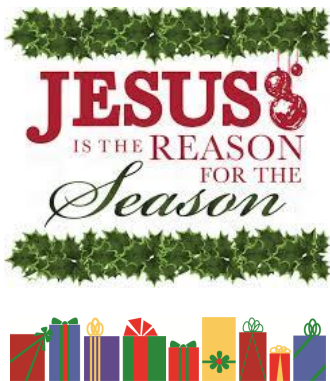
WE NEED YOU!!!

You say you don't like to get up early but would like to help out with SOS Food Pantry?! Well here is your chance! We are in dire need of any able-bodied persons that can help vacuum, wipe tables, move chairs and tables to

Continued...

We Need You!!! continued...

their proper places, sweep and sometimes a little mopping. Also, bread and produce need to be packed up and put in the sheds. Here is the best part—we don't need you until **11am!!!** When we close our doors, the volunteers that have worked hard all morning are tired, because some of us have been there since the wee hours of the morning. So, if you can spare an hour (sometimes less) we sure could use the help and would welcome you with open arms! Questions? You can call Mary Krol at 270-8316. Or just show up and we will happily put you to work. Please and thank you!



Coming attraction



Advent, which marks the beginning of the church year, is “the first gleam of Christmas,” writes W.E. Sangster. “It heralds the entrance of the Divine into human history; it is heaven descending to earth; it is a great event casting its brilliance before it.” Sangster adds: “It is as though a trumpeter had taken his stand upon the turrets of time and announced the coming of the King. ‘Get ready,’ he seems to say. ‘Get ready. He is coming!’”



Candlelight Worship Service
5:00pm & 7:30pm



Thrivent Choice Dollars

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

Joseph E. Baker
Pamela J. Moore
Mary E. Wagner

Thank you for your gift.



NO Monday night card games in December. We will resume in January.





Christmas Day Worship

10:00am



Barbara Fosse

April 1, 1938 – November 16, 2019



*"Rest in peace good and faithful
servant."*



Memorial and Special Gifts

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

- To the Memorial Fund by Sondra Jackson in memory of **Elsie Makuch and Frances Lowe.**

- To the Memorial Fund by Marty Hester in memory of **Russell Hester.**
- To the General Fund by Mike & Angela Busler in memory of **Frances Lowe.**
- To the General Fund by Dorothy M. Byrd in memory of **Frances Lowe.**
- To the Memorial Fund by Robert L. Proteau in memory of **Frances Lowe.**
- To the Memorial Fund by June Dreger-Parsons in memory of **Wilma Moll.**
- To the Memorial Fund by Robert & Barbara Proteau memory of **Frances Lowe.**



Join us as we decorate the church!



**December 20, 2018
10:00AM**



Father Christmas Ball

The 22nd Father Christmas Benefit Ball will be held on Friday, December 6, 2019 from 5:30 p.m. until 10:30 p.m. at the Chet Cole Life Enrichment Center. All proceeds benefit Serving Our Savior Food Pantry (SOS).



Hilltoppers

The Hilltoppers enjoyed a wonderful afternoon of good food, good fun and good fellowship at Applebee's Grill + Bar in Inverness.

We will not meet in December for our regular lunch outing, but will resume on **January 17, 2020** when we'll dine at Mr. King Chinese Restaurant in Crystal River.

If you would like to join us, we will carpool from the church at 12:30pm. Don't forget to call Louise Olson at 344-4479 with your reservation.



Craft 'N Share

PLEASE NOTE, WE WILL NOT MEET IN DECEMBER due to holidays and conflicts.

JOIN US in 2020!! On the fourth WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 22, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. for a chat while we work. Bring your lunch and we will provide dessert and beverages.

Questions?? Call Maggie at 860-2215.



The Quilting Group

On November 6th ten quilters and one sewer met and we finished seven quilts. We welcomed Linda F. back from up north.

We want to thank: Linda F. for sheets and for making many tops; Winnie B. for sheets; Anita D. for tops; Peg H. for youth blankets; Wendy W. for youth blanket and baby quilts. Sandra Gumm donated crochet thread and we thank her too.

We put youth quilts out on the table and Pastor Dennis blessed them. We took a picture, bagged them and Gloria P. took them to the Citrus County

Family Resource Center. Gerry made five patriot tops and we took a picture of them and took them to Mission for the Homeless Veterans in Inverness. The pictures were put on GSLC mail.

In December we meet once on Wednesday, December 4th to work on full sized quilts. Come and join us and bring your lunch; dessert and coffee are provided.

Questions, call Gerry at 637-2412.

Youth Quilts blessed by Pastor Koch




Quilts for Veterans blessed by Pastor Koch



?? ? Bible Quiz ? ??

Where did the child Jesus and his parents flee for safety?

- A. Ethiopia
- B. Syria
- C. Rome
- D. Egypt



Answer: (See Matthew 2:13.)

Special dates

- First Sunday of Advent, *December 1, 2019*
- Al Ernst, Carnival Cruise "Entertainer of the Year," Comedy, *December 1, 2019 at 2:00pm*
- Advent Potluck Suppers, *December 4, 11 & 18 2019 at 6:00pm*
- Advent Evening Prayer Worship, *December 4, 11 & 18 at 7:00pm*
- Second Sunday of Advent, *December 8, 2019*
- Children's Christmas Program, *December 8, 2019 at 8:30am*
- Third Sunday of Advent, *December 15, 2019*
- Christmas Musical Offering, *December 15, 2019 at 8:30am & 11:00am*
- Piano Recital, *December 15, 2019 at 3:00pm*
- Greening of the church, *December 20, 2019 at 10:00am*
- First day of winter, *December 21, 2019*
- Fourth Sunday of Advent, *December 22, 2019*
- Christmas Eve Worship, *December 24, 2019 at 5:00pm & 7:30pm*
- Christmas Day Worship, *December 25, 2019 at 10:00am*
- New Year's Eve, *December 31, 2019*



Publix Saturday Night Pick-Up

Cliff & Ann Possinger

Food Share Monday Delivery

Cliff & Ann Possinger



Dates to remember



**6:00PM
December 4, 11, 18**



**8:30AM
Sunday
December 8**



**8:30AM & 11:00AM
Sunday
December 15
Musical Christmas
Offering**



Christmas Eve











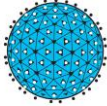

5:00PM & 7:30PM



**Christmas
Day
Worship**

10:00AM

DECEMBER 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 First Sunday of Advent 9:45A – Christian Ed December Birthdays 2:00P – Al Ernst Christian Comedian	2 10:00A – Adult Education 1:00P – W/ELCA Board	3 8:00A – Breakfast 10:00A – Worship & Music 11:30A – AA 6:00P – Bells 6:30P – Scouts	4 8:00A-SOS 9:00A – Executive Council 10:00A – Quilters 6:00P – Advent Potluck Supper 7:00P – Evening Prayer Service 7:30P – Choir	5 8:30A – SOS  12:00P – Pizza	6 8:00A– Workday on Grounds 5:30P – Father Christmas Ball 6:00P – Scouts Fundraiser	7
8 Second Sunday of Advent 8:30 A – Children's Christmas Program 10:00A – Altar Guild W/ELCA Coffee, Tea & Cocoa Sale	9 10:00A – Adult Ed 1:30P – Fellowship	10 8:00A – Breakfast 11:00A – Evangelism 11:30A – AA 6:00P – Bells 6:30P – Scouts	11 8:00A-SOS 6:00P – Advent Potluck Supper 7:00P – Evening Prayer Service 7:30P – Choir	12 8:30A – SOS 	13 8:00A – Workday on Grounds  1:00P – Grief Recovery	14 9:00A Men's Breakfast & Bible Study 
15 Third Sunday of Advent 9:45A – Christian Ed 11:00 – Musical Offering 12:30P – Council 3:00P – Piano Recital 	16 10:00A – Adult Ed 1:30P – Social Ministry	17 8:00A-Breakfast 10:00A – Stewardship 11:30A – AA 6:00P – Bells 6:30P – Scouts	18 8:00A-SOS 6:00P – Advent Potluck Supper 7:00P – Evening Prayer Service 7:30P – Choir	19 8:30A- SOS 	20 8:00A – Workday on Grounds 10:00A – Greening of the church 1:00P – Hilltoppers 1:00P – Grief Recovery	21
22 Fourth Sunday of Advent 2:30P – Life Care	23 1 10:00A – Adult Ed	24 8:00A-Breakfast 11:30A – AA Christmas Eve Worship  5:00P & 7:30P	25  Christmas Day Worship 10:00A	26 8:30A- SOS 	27 8:00A – Workday on Grounds 	28
29 Youth Sunday	30 10:00A – Adult Ed	31 8:00A-Breakfast 11:30A – AA  <i>New Year's Eve</i>				

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

Each service is followed by coffee hour in the fellowship hall.

DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES AND BIRTHDAYS



Ken & Vera Swade
Jim & Amy Gilbert
Kevin & Cindy Towne
Steve & Angela Schenk
Nate & Sauny Williams
Bob & Barbara Lackner

12/05/98
12/19/70
12/19/87
12/29/01
12/29/62
12/30/85



4 – Jacqueline Imes

6– Carol Lee Johnson

7 – Gail Sotrines

9 – Janet Burfeindt
Anne Storan

10 – Bonnie Norman

11 – Bob Lackner
Dylan Nelson

12 – John Gray
Cindy Gaertner

13 – Karen Robidoux

15 – Shirley Storsteen

19 –Maggie Kirkeby

20 – Thelma Ewell
Frank Romanelli

21 – Joann Frost

22 – Shirley Uherchik

23– Judith Fischer

25 – Chris Bahner
Faye Lowe
Esther Page-Wood

28 – Gaye Barrett

30 – Mary Stiles
Frank Wheatley

MONTHLY COMMITTEE DUTIES

DECEMBER 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

ALTAR & COMMUNION

Jane Sundblad
Colleen Garvin
Alma Day
Kathy Hildebrandt

FLOWER DISTRIBUTION

Doris Herp

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sue Fowler
Melissa Gifford
Aides – Stacey Wilson
Rebecca Donahue [Late]

MONEY COUNTERS

Louise Osborn, Lead
Doris Herp
Sondra Jackson

GREETERS

8:30AM

11:00AM

December 1–Mel & Donna Pease Cathy Heaps

December 8 - TBD Cathy Heaps Stetson

December 15 - TBD Norma Engle

December 22 - TBD Carol Herbst

December 24 – TBD Carol Herbst

December 25 – TBD

December 29 – TBD Gerry Kauth

ASSISTING MINISTER

8:30AM

11:00AM

December 1

Bob Bonomo Kathy Hildebrandt

December 8

Bob Bonomo Sharon Maxwell

December 15

Rick Mainster Vera Swade

December 22

Margot Berger Lisbeth Goetter

December 24 – Christmas Eve

5:00PM

7:30pm

Bob Bonomo

Lisbeth Goetter

December 25 – Christmas Day - 10:00AM

Bob Bonomo

December 29 – Youth Sunday

CRUCIFER

Rick Mainster

Vera Swade

8:30AM

11:00AM

Vance Ewell-12/1

Alma Day

Rick Mainster – 12/8

Dave Bocker – 12/15

Rick Mainster – 12/22

Joann Frost – 12/24 – 5:00P

Ann Neville – 12:25 – 10:00A

Joann Frost – 12/29

USHERS

8:30AM

(L)Bob Adams, Dennis Moore,
Ann Neville

11:00AM

12/01, 12/08 – (L) Dick & Kathy Hildebrandt, Doris Herp
12/15 (L) Harv Johnson, Gerry Kauth, Norma

Engle

12/22, **12/24** (L) Don Schroeder, Nancy Gomes, Beverly
Brockschmidt

12/29 (L) Randy & Carole Wagner, Jack Wolff

NURSERY

8:30AM

11:00AM

Susan Fowler



KEEP THEM
IN YOUR PRAYERS



*(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:

Bendtsen, Elin
Benefiel, Larry
Bregger, Jack
Britt-Busler, Elizabeth
Brockschmidt, Fred
Burfeindt, Janet
Colson, Jack D.
Creager, Ray
Dreger-Parsons, June

Drennen, Ken
Hahn, Eric
Hartsfield, Sylvia
Hester, Marty
Hildebrandt, Dick
Hoell, Lucille
Johnson, Barb
Johnson, Carol Lee

Kott, Hans & Anne Storan
Lackner, Barbara
Mehnert, Bill & Family
Motts, Louann
Page-Wood, Jeremy & Esther
Whitcomb, Maxine
Wolff, Jack

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

Gramolini, Katherine
Halstead, Deborah
Hehn, Margaret

Madelyn Hickey
Maidhof, Walter & Helen
Mandell, Sheila

McGauran, Marion
Moll, Bob
Philipp, Dick

All who serve our country in the military:

Burba, Jake
Ceballos, Jason
Cwicklinski, C.J.
Day, Kenneth
Fosse, Jr., Paul
Gaertner, Jerrod
Harrington, Bryan
Hickman, Richard
Holman, Evan
Jackson, Brad

Johnston-Garcia, Christian
Luchay, Alan
Martin, Aaron
McCann, Jim
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
Thomas, Peter Chris
Thompson, David
Timpe, Chris
Walton, Leslie

Relatives and Friends:

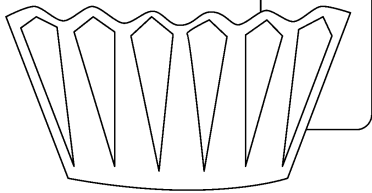
Ailor, Earle	Gradeless, Marge	Powell, Bill
Arbuckle, Amy & Matthew	Graves, Janice & Declan	Priselac, Lorrie
Balastieri, Casey	Hohl, Wayne	Rajotte, Keith
Beck, Bryan	Johnson, Jim	Rambaldini, Jim
Bell, Ian	Kamm, Mike & Nancy	Redston, Peter
Blyth, Ruby	Kraft, Carter	Riccio, Taino
Bonomo, Brendan & Alyssa	Krol, Shirley	Schapers, Brant
Bordeaux, John	Lavaja, Jim	Scheetz, Cathy & family
Brockschmidt, Donna	Lewellen, Emily Anne	Scheltens, Lynn
Brown, Kelly Ann	Lewis, Keith	Small, Brenda & Steven
Brugger, Tristan	Lobenthal, Jean	Smolen, Tyler
Burkhardt, Faith	Lock, Kathy	Stuart, Neil & family
Campano, Thomas	Loftin, Tracy	Thompson, Lori
Cato, Cecelia	Loger, Dennis	Traywick, Edward
Cipollone, Elaine	Longworth, Kathy	Tuegel, Chuck
Clarke, Father Peter	Magrum, Corbin	Urban, B.J.
Clarke, Charlotte	Magri, Steve & Thomas	Van Wyk family
Costa, Denise	Maidhof, Dexter, Gary	Waara, Jerry
Crawford, Cleola	Maidhof, Jeremiah	Walker, Betty
De Gina, Frances & family	Mainster, Arlene	Wells, Emmarie [6]
Dille, Jim	Malave, Kim Michelle	Wilder, Gayle
Dortin, Rachel	Martin, Joe	Williams, Dorothy
Ehrhardt, Ava	McHugh, Mark	Wittmann family
Fidell, Eloise	McPhee, John	Wood, Rowen
Fratto, Joseph	Mehnert, Edward	Woods, Donna Jean
Fowler family	Mena, Steve	Woolf, Nick
Gaertner, Kent	Meucci, Michele	Woolley, Carol & family
Garling, John	Mock, Nelson	Wright, Matthew
Glymph, Diane	O'Berry, Darlene	Wyzard, Joe & Dana
Goetter, Tom, Whitney	Oehl, Lita	Youngblood, Sandra
Goforth, Jeffrey	Orr, Gail	
Goodloe, Ernestine	Page-Wood, Jaaken	

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. December, 2019



Light the way

Make some Christmas candles to remember Jesus, the Light of the world.

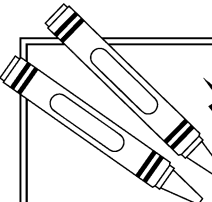



What you need:

- Unlined white notecards
- Hot glue (and adult help)
- Yellow tissue paper
- Mini muffin liners
- Clothespins

What you do:


1. Roll a notecard from side to side into a "candle" tube. Secure with glue.
2. Insert a piece of tissue paper "flame" in one end.
3. Glue the other end to a muffin liner. Then glue the liner to a clothespin.
4. Repeat to make many paper candles. Pin them to the branches of a Christmas tree.



Symbols of the season

Many traditional decorations convey the meaning of Christmas.

Directions: Use the picture clues to the right to complete the words. Then write the boxed letters in order to complete 2 Corinthians 9:15, NIV.



shepherd's staff _ □ □ _ _ _ □

tree that keeps its leaves _ _ _ □ _ _ _

shines to lead the way _ _ _ □

green for eternal life, □ _ _ _ &
red for Jesus' blood _ _ _ □ □ _

sounds to announce □ _ _ _
good news

has no beginning or end _ _ _ _ □ _

Th □ □ ks b □ to □ od fo □ □ is
indesc □ □ ba □ le gif □ !

2 CORINTHIANS 9:15, NIV

Answer: candy cane, evergreen, star, holly & berries, bell, wreath. Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift! 2 Corinthians 9:15, NIV





CHURCH STAFF

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Administrative Assistant

Shirley McField

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E-mail: gschurch@live.com

STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Building / Property

Harv Johnson 270-3391

Christian Education

Tom Clutz 465-8246

Sue Fowler 464-0571

Enduring Gifts

Bob Bonomo 746-8173

Evangelism

Pat Wolff 560-7386

Fellowship

Betty Sanger 527-1630

Finance

Louise Osborn 746-2405

Mutual Ministry

Mary Krol 270-8316

Pastoral Care

Dave Sotrines 860-1765

Social Ministry

Vera Swade 637-5308

Stewardship

Shelly Fortin 587-7007

Worship & Music

Roger Johnson 746-7321

COUNCIL LIAISONS

Building /Property

Randy Wagner 270-8485

Christian Education

Jack Wolff 560-7386

Christian Education - YOUTH

Phyllis Powell 270-4495

Enduring Gifts

Bill Mehnert 513-4624

Evangelism

Dick Hildebrandt 527-0445

Fellowship

Pat Ouwerkerk 419-7527

Finance

Kathy Swartz 746-5374

Mutual Ministry

Mike Busler 860-906-8234

Pastoral Care

Eric Hahn 344-5575

Social Ministry

Gladys Kean 527-4663

Stewardship

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