



HAPPENING NOW

- Two-Can Sunday, April 2
- Yarn Angels, 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m., April 2
- FX3 & Confirmation, 12:30 p.m., April 2
- Soup & Salad Supper, 6 p.m., April 5
- Midweek Lenten Service, Noon & 7:30 p.m., April 5
- Outdoor Cleanup Day, 8 a.m., April 8
- Needlework Friends, 11 a.m., April 8
- Palm Sunday, April 9
- Church Council, 7 p.m., April 11
- Staff Meeting, 10:30 a.m., April 12
- Maundy Thursday, Noon & 8 p.m., April 13
- Good Friday, Noon & 8 p.m., April 14
- Easter — April 16, 7 a.m., 8:30 a.m., 10:45 a.m. services
- Easter Brunch, 9:30—10:45 a.m., April 16
- Ladies Night Out, 7 p.m., April 18
- Mutual Ministry Committee, 6:30 p.m., April 20
- FX3 & Confirmation, 12:30 p.m., April 23
- Congregational Meeting, Noon, April 30

News You Can “Ewes”

VOLUME 6, ISSUE 4

APRIL 2017



Holy Week and Easter 2017

Palm Sunday – April 9

Traditional Service 8:30 am

Praise Service 10:45 a.m.

Maundy Thursday – April 13

Noon & 8pm

Good Friday – April 14

Noon & 8pm

Easter Sunday – April 16

Sunrise Service—7am

Traditional Service 8:30 a.m.

Praise Service 10:45 a.m.

Easter Brunch served 9:30–10:45 a.m. — Join us!!

Announcement of Congregational Meeting

March 30, 2017

Dear Members of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church,

The first of the Bi-Annual Meetings of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Woodstock, Georgia, will be Sunday, April 30, 2017, following the 10:45am worship service. The agenda includes the approval of the July 2017-June 2018 annual operating budget. All Confirmed Members of GSLC have voice and vote at the meeting. We hope that you will all be in attendance for this important business.

At the 2015 Annual Meeting, the congregation approved moving from a calendar-year annual budget to a fiscal-year, July 1-June 30, annual budget. This change allows the budget planning process to occur at a more informed time for budget planning.

The July 2017 – June 2018 operating budget is a balanced budget, approved by the Church Council with input from the Finance Committee and the Personnel Committee. The Income budget is based on actual monthly giving trends and the pledges received from the congregation in the First Quarter 2017. The significant changes to the Expense budget include the Youth Ministry Coordinator position; an increase to the funding for the Youth Ministry Coordinator to enhance the candidate pool; a \$10,000 line item for major facility repairs; compensation increases for the staff; and the last mortgage payment in April, 2018. The budget also includes adjustments for utilities to match industry trends and minor changes to the committee budgets. If you have further questions on the proposed budget the Council will be holding Question/Answer budget sessions on Sunday, April 23 and Sunday, April 30, at 9:45 am, in the Fellowship Hall.

The Church Council would once again like to thank all the members of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church for their continued support for this ministry both with their financial commitments as well as for the time, energy, prayers and enthusiasm we see you exhibit every day. Without this support this ministry could not grow and thrive as it does. As a Confirmed Member of the congregation, please make plans to attend the **Annual Meeting on Sunday, April 30, following the 10:45am service**, and keep these important decisions in your prayers. The business of the meeting can only be enacted if a quorum of Confirmed Members is present.

We are called, gathered, and blessed to be a community and instrument of grace all sheep of the Good Shepherd.

In Christ,

Barbara Blanke
President

Paul W. Baumgartner
Pastor

Caring for Creation, Luther-style



Lutherans around the world are celebrating the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. Simultaneously, the Southeastern Synod is also celebrating 2017 as the "Year for Care for Creation". As part of these celebrations, the Southeastern Synod Green Team is lifting up Luther's commitment to creation. He taught us to care for creation through his writings and the explanation of the First Article to the Apostle's Creed (below).

The First Article: Creation: **I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.** *What does this mean? I believe that God has made me and all creatures; that He has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my reason and all my senses, and still takes care of them. He also gives me clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, wife and children, land, animals, and all I have. He richly and daily provides me with all that I need to support this body and life. He defends me against all danger and guards and protects me from all evil. All this He does only out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me. For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him. This is most certainly true. — Martin Luther*

To assist in this awareness, the SE Synod Green Team has developed "95 Theses of Creation Care." Ten of these theses will be published each month in our Good Shepherd Newsletter. Here are the next ten:

95 Theses for Creation Care (11-20)

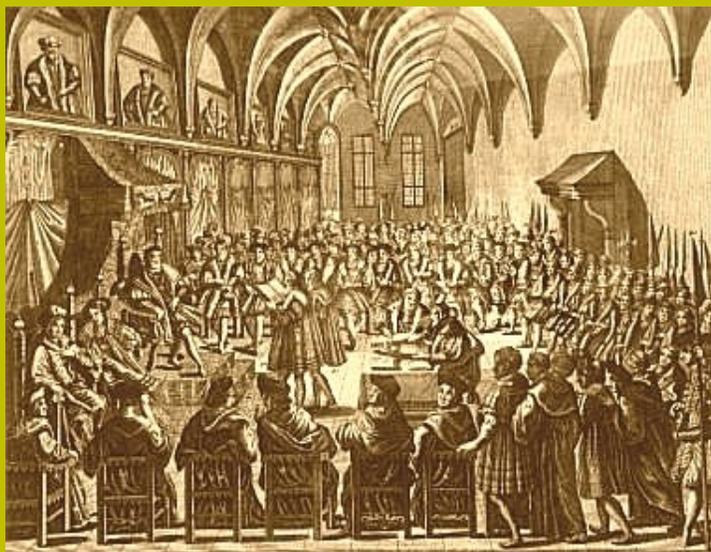
11. Abusing and taking from the earth is fruit-less.
12. Self-use of the earth says that the earth belongs to us.
13. The result of the self-use of this earth destroys this gift of the earth that nourishes us and feeds us.
14. The earth belongs to God.
15. Abusing the earth steals from God.
16. Humanity is of the earth.
17. The earth and humanity are one.
18. The heavens declare the glory of God.
19. Taking from the earth removes God's glory.
20. The heavens declare God's handiwork.

Thank you everyone!!

- A heartfelt thanks to all of you who attended the Diet of Worms Spaghetti Luncheon on March 12. It was a very nice afternoon of education and fun & games. Thanks to your kind offerings the Outreach Committee raised \$507 for the MUST Summer Lunch program. Thanks to a Thrivent Action Team donation made by Pam Strong we were able to cover our costs for food and entertainment and keep direct all money raised toward our cause.
- Many thanks to all the members of the congregation who supported the youth for our Ash Wednesday Italian Feast! We raised over \$350 to benefit the youth travelling to Savannah and Chicago this summer. We truly appreciate all of your wonderful support!

ABOUT THE LUTHERANS

The Augsburg Confession



Presentation of Augsburg Confession

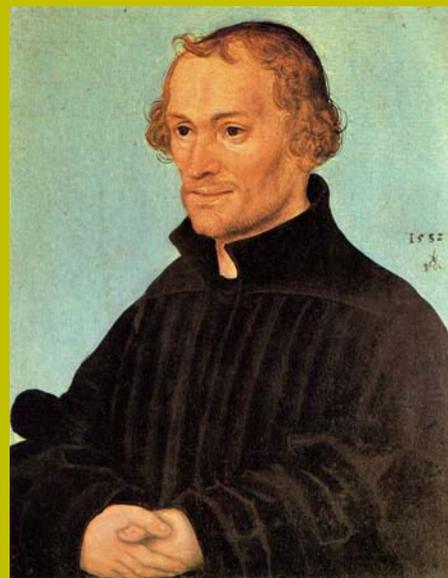
The Augsburg Confession, written in the midst of the Reformation tumult, is the core statement of what Lutherans believe. It was produced in 1530, 13 years after young professor Martin Luther posted the Ninety-Five Theses in Wittenberg. A lot had happened in those 13 years. Thanks to Luther's creative exploration of the gospel and its implications, his colorful personality (opponents had other adjectives), and the availability of the printing press, his views on religious matters as well as the politics of the day had been widely distributed. In many parts of central Europe, people were responding favorably, to the consternation of the Church of Rome, which had been accustomed to being the single expression of the Christian church in that region.

In the sixteenth century there was no nation called Germany. Rather, the various duchies and electorates made up a key part of the Holy Roman Empire, a remnant of the European territory once governed by ancient Rome. For much of Reformation times, Charles V governed as Holy Roman Emperor. He had watched his empire become increasingly fractured by divisions among princes favorable to Luther and other reformers, and those who kept their loyalty to Rome and the pope. The emperor needed the princes to be unified, not least because a Turkish invasion of Europe had reached the gates of Vienna. And so, in January 1530, the emperor called for a diet, or general assembly, in the German city of Augsburg. He asked the German princes and imperial cities to explain their religious convictions.

And so, reforming theologians and the rulers who supported them headed for Augsburg— among them, Luther's colleague Philipp Melanchthon and his pastor, Johannes Bugenhagen. Luther himself could not accompany them because he had been named an outlaw at a previous diet. He had also been excommunicated by the pope. He was, however, consulted on the final text via mail.

Upon their arrival in Augsburg, Melanchthon, consulting with previous preliminary documents, composed the final text of the confession. The German princes who favored the Reformation viewpoint agreed to it and signed it. On June 25, 1530, the Augsburg Confession was read aloud in German before the emperor and presented in written form in both German and Latin.

The Augsburg Confession (sometimes called Augustana from its Latin title) is now found in a larger collection of Lutheran confessional writings called The Book of Concord. It contains 28 parts, or articles. The first 21 of these stress points of agreement with the Roman Church of the time, though sometimes with crucial differences. In the last seven, the writers lay out what they see as abuses committed by the church.



Philipp Melanchthon

The Augsburg Confession continues to guide the teachings of Lutheran churches to this day. Though a product of troubled times, it is filled with witness to the gospel of Jesus Christ.

2017-18 Sunday School Team

Please join us in thanking this group of teachers for their leadership in our Sunday School Ministry!

We always welcome new leaders in our Sunday School programs and encourage your prayerful consideration of these opportunities to show God's grace in action!

3s

(T) Karen Britts
(T) Rosemary George
(A) Kari Corley

(A) Carrie Escamilla
(A) Tim Mathews

4s/Kindergarten

(T) Jenny Champion
(T) Gina Crittenden
(A) Scarlett Hovda
(A) Sarita Morris

Middle School

(T) Mike McCoy
(A) Deborah Ezell
(A) Mindi Pirkel

1st/2nd

(T) Karen Epstein
(A) Missy Jayroe
(A) Trina Hutchison

High School

(T) Kristin Brenneman
(T) Holly Jones
(A) Tracey Homer

3rd-5th

(T) Chuck McCoy
(T) Leanne Reynolds

Adult

(T) Pastor Paul
(T) Jaime Escamilla
(T) Mary Tucker
(T) Lori Peters

Please contact Janice Swinford, Sunday School Superintendent, at 770-924-8906 or sundayschool@gslutheran.org for more information or to talk about how you can participate in Sunday School!



Thanks for the Underwear!

GSLC members answered the call in January and February when MUST Ministries asked for donations of socks and underwear. We sent 187 pieces of underwear and 183 pairs of socks to Must—thank you!

Outdoor Cleanup Day

The Building and Grounds Maintenance Committee is having a workday for spreading pine straw and doing some yard work at the church. We will be cleaning up the planted beds and spreading pine straw.

So get out your gloves, rakes, brooms and blowers and come join us on **Saturday, April 8 from 8 a.m. until we finish.** Any questions, please contact Geoff Morton at (678) 410-0107.

Get Active in a Group...

Yarn Angels meets **Sunday, April 2** from 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. in Room 120.

Needlework Friends meets on **Saturday, April 8** from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the home of Linda Rowell (114 Newcastle Walk, Woodstock) for needlework and fellowship. Bring your projects, learn something new, teach or help another friend. Knit, Crochet, Cross-stitch, Embroider, Sew, etc. Light refreshments provided. Contact Linda at 770-924-4869 or larowell@bellsouth.net.

Ladies Night Out meets at Semper Fi on Highway 5 in Woodstock at 7 p.m. on **Tuesday, April 18.** Sign up at Sign-Up

Council Update,

March 2016

Discussions

- Financial Secretary, Jaime Escamilla, reported that February income was \$52,243, which is ahead of budgeted figures.
- To date, the God's Grace In Action with Offering stewardship campaign has resulted in receipt of 154 pledges, for a total of approximately \$560,000.
- The Finance Committee is actively working on the July 2017 – June 2018 budget.
- Council will meet for a special budget review meeting on Sunday, March 26th.
- The Facilities and Maintenance Committee has installed gas detectors throughout the building.

Accolades

- Many thanks to everyone who participated in the Ash Wednesday fundraiser – to all the youth and their families for food donations, set-up and clean-up, and especially to members of the congregation who support our youth and youth programming.
- Thank you to everyone who worked to make our "Diet of Worms" event such a success – especially Susan Epling, Lucy Diegnan, Holly Jones, Patrick Swinford, Mary Tucker, and Sharron Ryan.



Two-Can Sunday!

Don't forget the first Sunday of every month is designated as Two-Can Sunday. Bring your Two-Cans on **April 2!**

Caretakers of Community

“You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a basket. Instead, they set it on a lampstand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven...” Matthew 5:14-16

**God's work.
Our hands.**

In a time that may seem dark to many of our neighbors we are reminded that we are the light of the world, so it only seems right to spread our light. In honor of Refugee Sunday in late April, as Caretakers of our Community we will be collecting lightbulbs and small table lamps for the Lutheran Services of Georgia Refugee Resettlement program during the months of March and April. Lightbulbs are an item that is often overlooked in this program and always an essential need. As always, donated items can be dropped off in the marked boxes located in the Narthex or the Fellowship Hall. Please take extra care when dropping lightbulbs into the bins.



Habitat for Humanity Comes Home!!

The Lutheran Coalition for Habitat for Humanity is gearing up for this year's spring build. This particular project has a very close tie to Good Shepherd as the home is being built for Angela Scheitlin and her two children. Angela is the granddaughter of Good Shepherd members Bob and Barbara Scheitlin. The build takes place nearby in Acworth and Good Shepherd is responsible for providing lunch and breakfast on two of the build days. The build began in March and continues through July 15. The schedule is posted on the Outreach Board in the administrative hallway. We are hoping for a strong turnout this year in show of our support for this very worthwhile project. Registration is online so if you are interested in participating in the build, please sign up at Sign Up Central and registration instructions will be forwarded to you.

Outreach Update...

Dear friends at Good Shepherd,

I wanted to extend a heartfelt thanks to all of you who attended the Diet of Worms Spaghetti Luncheon on Sunday, March 12th. It was a very nice afternoon of education, fun, and games. Thanks to your kind offerings the Outreach Committee raised \$507.00 that will be used to help fund our MUST Summer Lunch program. I would be remiss if I didn't thank the wonderful helpers I had both before and after to help with cooking and setup/cleanup as well. I also want to extend a very special thank you to Pam Strong for using her Thrivent Action Team seed money to cover our costs for food and entertainment and therefore, be able to direct all money raised toward our cause. If you missed the afternoon but would still like to make a donation toward our MUST Ministries Summer Lunch mission, you are welcome to place a donation in a sealed envelope marked MUST Summer lunches and place it in the offering plates or drop it off in the church office at any time in the weeks ahead. Again, thank you to all who made this day possible and supported it with your presence or donations.

Looking ahead in April, we have three very popular events occurring in our Outreach department:

- Collection of Funds for Give A Kid A Chance Backpacks - Once again, we have the opportunity to share the love for the school children in our community by collecting for the annual Give A Kid A Chance backpack program. The Community Outreach Committee of GSLC will once again be providing backpacks filled with all the necessary school supplies for needy children in Cherokee County. Rather than shop for supplies, we are requesting that Good Shepherd members support the program with donations only and we will then order pre stuffed backpacks at a negotiated price. A filled backpack costs approximately \$20. Further details can be found on the Outreach board across from the church office and there will be a box in the narthex for donations.
- Mother's Day corsage orders: Outreach Committee will once again be selling Mother's Day Corsages to honor those in our church family who give so much. Show your mom, your wife, or your grandmother how much you love her this Mother's Day by giving her a beautiful corsage while supporting other mothers in our community. Rose Corsages are \$10 and all the money raised will benefit the Lutheran Services of Georgia Refugee Resettlement Program. Order forms will be available in the narthex. Volunteers are also needed for assembly of the corsages on Saturday morning May 13th. Do not Fear! No creative or crafting expertise is necessary. All supplies and tasks will be provided and based on your skill level. If you would like to help with the assembly please let me know.
- Lutheran Coalition Habitat for Humanity Build: Once again, Good Shepherd hopes to support our Lutheran Coalition of churches and help build a home for a family in need. Details on this year's build are located on the previous page of this newsletter. We hope you will come out to join us one Saturday for this very worthwhile project.

I look forward to a very fruitful spring season as we prepare for the resurrection of our Savior! I hope you will join me.

God's Peace,

Kristin Brenneman, Outreach Coordinator, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church



VBS Already? Yes!

VBS 2017

Hero Central: Discover Your Strength in God.

June 26-30, 9 a.m.—Noon

Calling all VBS volunteers — are you ready to put on your superhero capes and show the young people of our community how to discover their strength in God? Sign up at Sign Up Central today to participate in this exciting and fun week at GSLC! We need lots of volunteers to make this week happen, so even if you aren't able to help during the week in June, but can assist with preparing and planning in the weeks prior, please sign up too. Thank you!

Hunger Walk a Success!

Nine Empty Nester walkers, traveled downtown to participate in this year's HungerWalk and a number of other families contributed. Thanks to everyone, the group exceeded its goal of raising \$500!

Pictured are front row, left to right Linda Kronau, Gail Setzer, Karen Yerkes, Eileen White, Melinda Mundis. Back row, left to right, Paul Kronau, Mark Yerkes, Steve Setzer and Ben Setzer.



Last Day to Order Easter Lilies!

Sunday, April 2, is the last day to turn in a form for Easter lilies. They are \$10 and can be given in celebration, in memory, or in honor of a loved one. Pick up a form in the entryway and return it to the slot in the Administration Hallway TODAY!

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

1208 ROSE CREEK DRIVE
WOODSTOCK, GA 30189
770-924-7286
GSLUTHERAN.ORG



AN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA (ELCA) CONGREGATION
SERVING NORTH COBB AND CHEROKEE COUNTY COMMUNITIES. JOIN US!
8:30 A.M. TRADITIONAL
9:30 A.M. SUNDAY SCHOOL
10:45 A.M. PRAISE

**“WELCOME ONE ANOTHER, THEREFORE,
AS CHRIST HAS WELCOMED YOU.”**

ROMANS 15:7

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH WARMLY WELCOMES PEOPLE OF ANY AGE,
RACE, NATIONALITY, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, LIFE CIRCUMSTANCE,
AND PHYSICAL OR MENTAL CAPABILITY.

Last Lenten Service and Supper

Our Wednesday Lenten worship services (at noon and 7:30pm) conclude on April 5 with the topic of Communion from Luther’s Small Catechism. Prior to the Wednesday Lenten EVENING service GSLC hosts a Soup and Salad Supper from 6-7 p.m. If you are on the committee below, please bring soup. Everyone else is asked to bring a salad or simple side dish to share. The Fellowship Committee provides rolls, crackers and beverages.

April 5 — Faith Formation and Finance

The Reformation 500 resources available for purchase will be available through Palm Sunday, April 9.