



HAPPENING NOW

- **Soup & Salad Supper—Fundraiser for Youth Trips, 6 p.m., March 1**
- **Ash Wednesday Services, Noon & 7:30 p.m., March 1**
- **Pastor Paul out of office, March 2—5**
- **Two-Can Sunday, March 5**
- **FX3 and Confirmation, 12:30 p.m., March 5**
- **Yarn Angels, 10:30 a.m. –12:30 p.m., March 5**
- **Janice Swinford out of office, March 8—18**
- **Soup & Salad Supper, 6 p.m., March 8**
- **Midweek Lenten Service, Noon & 7:30 p.m., March 8**
- **Needlework Friends, 11 a.m., March 11**
- **Daylight Savings Time—Set Clocks Ahead!, March 12**
- **Diet of Worms Luncheon, 11:45 a.m., March 12**
- **Church Council Meeting, 7 p.m., March 14**
- **Staff Meeting, 10:30 a.m., March 15**

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News You Can “Ewes”

VOLUME 6, ISSUE 3

MARCH 2017



Lent 2017

Worship

The season of Lent begins on **March 1** with the celebration of Ash Wednesday. Marked with the ashes of our mortality, we will remember that we cannot save ourselves from sin and death, but that God can and has. God has given us a savior, Jesus, who died for us and was raised

for us, so that we might have new life. The season of Lent is a time of confession; we are called to rend our hearts. We are called to name and claim every wrong and evil thing that is in us and repent. But Lent is also an invigorating time to grow.

Because 2017 marks the international observance of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, our Lenten journey will focus on Martin Luther’s Small Catechism. For 500 years the Small Catechism has been a rich resource for inspiring and guiding Lutherans around the world. Our Wednesday Lenten worship services (at noon and 7:30pm) will include consideration of the topics of the Small Catechism: Ten Commandments, Apostles’ Creed, Lord’s Prayer, Baptism, and Communion.

March 1	Noon and 7:30 p.m.	Ash Wednesday with Imposition of Ashes
March 8	Noon and 7:30 p.m.	The Ten Commandments
March 15	Noon and 7:30 p.m.	The Apostles’ Creed
March 22	Noon and 7:30 p.m.	The Lord’s Prayer
March 29	Noon and 7:30 p.m.	Baptism
April 5	Noon and 7:30 p.m.	Communion

There are also other Reformation 500 resources available for purchase. A display of these items and order forms are in the Fellowship Hall.

Turn to the back page for information on Soup and Salad Suppers

Servants are needed for Ash Wednesday services and mid-week Lenten services. Sign up in the entryway!

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 all of us 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 first ten:

95 Theses for Creation Care (1-10)

1. When the Creator said to us in Genesis that we should "keep" the earth, God gave all of us the responsibility to hold this gift of creation in reverence.
2. The word "keep" cannot be understood as referring to just using it for our own benefit, as if it belongs to us.
3. "Keeping" does not mean just reverence; such reverence is meaningless unless we take care of the earth.
4. To "keep" the earth is to love it and work it for God's benefit.
5. Keeping the earth gives glory to God.
6. Keeping the earth demonstrates thankfulness to God.
7. The Creator also gave us dominion over the earth.
8. Dominion of the earth is to be stewards of it for the benefit of all people.
9. The Creator told humanity to be fruitful and multiply.
10. Being fruitful is to nourish and strengthen all of creation.

"Diet of Worms"

SPAGHETTI LUNCHEON FUNDRAISER

Sunday, March 12 at 11:45 a.m.

Reformation-themed Fundraising activities such as:

Reformation Bingo * Raffle items * Showing of the acclaimed movie, *Luther*.
Please RSVP by March 5 by signing up at Sign-Up Central. Childcare available if indicated.

Lunch and activities begin at 11:45 a.m. - Movie begins at 12:45 p.m.

Come celebrate and learn more about the Reformation in the company of fellow sinners. Spaghetti, salad, bread and dessert will be served for a free-will offering benefitting GSLC's Outreach Program. An update on GSLC outreach projects will also be provided along with

Martin Luther's German Bible

What version of the Bible do you read? Today, we have many to choose from. They range from translations that aim to be as accurate as possible to others whose objective is to be easy to understand, even if some details get lost.

Imagine, though, if there were no Bible available in English—if such a thing didn't exist. What if the only Bible was in a language most didn't know and we had to rely on priests and scholars to tell us what was in the Bible? That was the situation in the Germany of Martin Luther's time. The Bible was most commonly found in Latin, though scholars could read it in the original languages of Hebrew and Greek. An important part of Luther's reforms was recognizing that a German Bible was needed—and then actually creating it!

Sometimes things happen because it's the right time, and that seems to be the case with Luther's Bible. Johannes Gutenberg's invention of printing with movable type had come along a few decades earlier and was coming into widespread use. Luther recognized the need to provide a Bible that ordinary, literate people could read. The many dialects of the German people were beginning to coalesce into a form that was widely understandable. Luther even had an artist friend, Lucas Cranach, who could provide illustrations for the Bible, aiding people's understanding. And finally, Luther had the time to devote to the project.

The dispute with the Roman Catholic hierarchy that had begun with Luther's Ninety-Five Theses worsened and Luther was condemned as an outlaw and heretic. He could have been arrested and executed, but Prince Frederick the Wise, "kidnapped" him in April 1521 and hid him away in Wartburg Castle. While hiding out there, Luther had little to do, so he set out to begin his translation of the Bible.

He started with the New Testament. He had learned New Testament Greek, the original language, and began with that, not Latin. Since the German language was still evolving, Luther would make trips into nearby towns to hear how people actually spoke. Luther returned to his home in Wittenberg in 1522, and within six months, his New Testament was published. After that he worked with pastors and scholars to prepare the Old Testament. The complete Bible, with woodcut illustrations, was first published in 1534. He revised it several times before his death.

Luther's German Bible was a landmark achievement. It influenced others in many countries, including England, to do the same. He brought the scriptures into the language of his people, and in so doing spread the gospel.

Easter Lily Order Form *Sunday, April 2 is the last day to place your order.*

_____ *Number of Lilies ordered at \$10 each*

_____ *Total amount enclosed*

*Please make checks payable to "Good Shepherd Lutheran Church"
and note "Lilies" on the memo line.*



PLEASE PRINT !!!

In Celebration of _____

In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____

Given by _____ *Phone* _____

Please include your check made out to GSLC and place in the slot in the Administration Hallway!

New Driver Faith Stepping Stone

If your child has started driving in the last year, Good Shepherd will acknowledge them with a blessing and a keychain during both services on **Sunday, March 19**. New drivers are invited to attend the service of their choice for this gift and blessing. Please see Janice Swinford if you are not able to attend either service that day.

Welcome New Members

GSLC welcomes new (sorta) members on February 26. Be sure to say hello!



Ryan and Stephanie Peters live in Woodstock now, but moved here in recently from Indiana. You can usually find them at the 10:45 a.m. service. They have two children, Dayton and Eleanor. Ryan works in transportation and Stephanie in early childhood education. In their free time, they enjoy camping and hiking (and visiting Grandma and Grandpa—GSLC members Chris and Lori Peters.)

Pictured above, left to right—Chris Peters holding Dayton, Lori Peters, Dalton Peters, Lauren Peters, Ryan Peters, and Stephanie Peters holding Eleanor.

Council Update,

February 2016

Discussions

- Financial Secretary, Jaime Escamilla, reported that January giving was \$57, 265, which represents 111% of budget.
- To date, the God's Grace In Action with Offering stewardship campaign has resulted in receipt of 135 pledges, for a total of \$496,276 compared to 2016's 164 pledges for a total of \$547,079.
- Council has appointed Ray Smith as Treasurer, with Pete Dumpis serving as Assistant Treasurer.
- Our waste management contract has been renegotiated, which now includes recycling, but still represents a monthly cost savings for GSLC.

Accolades

- Appreciation for Will Jayroe for his assistance with the website and in creating space to include Reformation information.
- Thanks to Wayne Wise for his negotiating a new contract with Republic Services Contract that helps GSLC financially and adds recycling to our waste contract.
- Many thanks to everyone who participated in the Chili Cook-off, from our wonderful judges Thomas Eisnor, Marc Duclos, and Grant Morris, to the youth who donated desserts, dogs, and drinks, to our wonderful Chili makers and the members of the congregation who came and ate and supported our youth and the summer mission trips.



Two-Can Sunday!

Don't forget the first Sunday of every month is designated as Two-Can Sunday. Bring your Two-Cans on **March 5!**

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.

Together, We Can Make Difference through Thrivent Choice®

A heartfelt thanks to all of you who directed Thrivent Choice Dollars® to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in 2016. Thrivent Financial and its members once again showed us how, together, we can make a difference by helping to strengthen communities and change lives. Eligible Thrivent Financial members who have been designated Choice Dollars have until **March 31, 2017**, to direct any remaining 2016 Choice Dollars. Help support Good Shepherd or any other approved organization that you are passionate about. Contact your local Financial Representative if you have any questions.

Let's All Go for a Walk!

The Empty Nesters invite you to join them at this year's Atlanta Hunger Walk on **Sunday, March 5**. The Hunger Walk is an annual 5K

walk/run through the streets of Atlanta that benefits the Atlanta Community Food Bank and supporting partners such as Lutheran Services of Georgia. Meet the Empty Nesters in the Fellowship Hall after the 10:45 a.m. service for sandwiches, before carpooling to Turner Field.

If you are unable to walk that day but would like to support the group's efforts you can donate by visiting the Atlanta Community Food Bank homepage at acfb.org and clicking on the "Sign Up Today" button in the middle of the home page. Then, navigate to the "Register" button on the right side of the page and select "Lutheran Services of Georgia" from the drop-down menu that appears. Click the second bottom from the left titled, "Join a Team". When the box appears that says "enter your team name" type in "Empty" and press return. A link to the Empty Nesters Walkers team page will appear. Click that link and choose "donate" or "Join" from the right side of the page.

For more information, contact Gail Tverberg Setzer. (Cell 407) 443-0505 or GailTverberg@comcast.net).





God's Grace in Action with Offerings — News from the Stewardship Committee

The Stewardship Committee wrapped up the **God's Grace in Action with Offerings** pledge campaign on January 29. To date 137 offering pledges totaling \$507,256 have been received.

Pledges are still trickling in; the Finance Committee will begin developing the new budget for FY 2018 based upon what has been pledged. If you have not yet done so, it is important to return your offerings pledge as soon as possible so the Finance Committee has a complete offerings projection with which to develop an accurate budget.

We are short of last years' offerings campaign – in 2016 we received 164 offering pledges totaling \$547,079. Without your financial support the operations of this church and the ministries we do cannot be accomplished.

You can still place your pledge card in the God's Grace in Action box on the altar, place it in the offering plate, or you can drop it in the mail slot outside the church office or simply mail it in. Of the 137 pledges received, 81 have elected to pledge using Simply Giving – thank you! If you are already using Simply Giving but did not submit a pledge, we still want to hear from you to let us know whether you are continuing or increasing your pledge!

Thank you for supporting **OUR** church home, Good Shepherd.

“A Christian is a servant, completely attentive to the needs of all” – Martin Luther

7th Annual Heart Burn Chili Cook-Off

The 7th Annual Heart Burn Chili Cook-Off took place on February 12. Thanks to everyone who participated by cooking, eating or judging! Approximately \$600 was raised to fund youth mission trips this summer!



Pictured from left to right: Alyssa Winnett (Emcee), Grant Morris (Judge), Marc Duclos (Judge), Adrian Escamilla - winner in Best Name category as voted by the congregation for "La Vaca Goes Oink"; Thomas Eisnor (Judge), Janice Swinford - winner in Best Taste category as voted by the judges for "Run for the Border", and Hailey Hovda (Emcee).



Men in Mission

Nine men from GSLC's Men in Mission group recently volunteered once again at The Extension in Marietta. The Extension is a residential recovery program serving homeless men who suffer from addiction. Members of MIM cooked and served a meal, drinks and dessert to a group of about 40 residents. Men in Mission meets Sundays during the 9:30 a.m. Education hour and Wednesdays at 7 p.m. Contact Jaime Escamilla or Paul Christensen for details. Join us!

Above, Paul Kronau (left) and Rob Homer man the chow line.



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!

Get Active in a Group...

Yarn Angels meets **Sunday, March 5** from 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. in Room 120.

Needlework Friends meets on **Saturday, March 11** from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the home of Sheryle Nussbaum (833 Bermuda Run, 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 Sheryle at 502-468-9302 or sanussbaum@gmail.com.

Ladies Night Out meets at Keegan's Irish Pub in Woodstock at 7 p.m. on **Tuesday, February 21**. Sign up at Sign-Up Central and leave your cell phone number. Thank you!

Continued from Front Page

- **Soup & Salad Supper, 6 p.m., March 15**
- **Midweek Lenten Service, Noon & 7:30 p.m., March 15**
- **Faith Stepping Stones—New Drivers, March 19**
- **FX3 and Confirmation, 12:30 p.m., March 19**
- **Ladies Night Out, 7 p.m., March 21**
- **Soup & Salad Supper, 6 p.m., March 22**
- **Midweek Lenten Service, Noon & 7:30 p.m., March 22**
- **Faith Formation Committee Meeting, Noon, March 26**
- **Soup & Salad Supper, 6 p.m., March 29**
- **Midweek Lenten Service, Noon & 7:30 p.m., March 29**

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

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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

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“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.

Lenten Soup and Salad Suppers

Prior to the Ash Wednesday and Wednesday Lenten EVENING services GSLC hosts Lenten Soup and Salad Suppers from 6-7 p.m. Different committees host the suppers each week. If you are on a committee below, please bring soup on your committee's date. Everyone else is asked to bring a salad or simple side dish to share. The Fellowship Committee provides rolls, crackers and beverages.



Host Groups

March 1 — Youth Mission Trip Fundraiser

The youth will feature Italian fare for the Ash Wednesday Lenten meal. Suggested donation \$5 per person, with a maximum of \$20 per family

March 8 — Outreach, Fellowship and Congregational Care

March 15 — Facilities and Maintenance and Mutual Ministry

March 22 — Stewardship and Mission Endowment

March 29 — Worship and Personnel

April 5 — Faith Formation and Finance