



HAPPENING NOW

- Staff Meeting, 10:30 a.m., May 3
- Two-Can Sunday, May 7
- Sunday School Registration, May 7
- Yarn Angels, 10:30 a.m.—12:30 p.m., May 7
- FX3 & Confirmation, 12:30 p.m., May 7
- Church Council Meeting, 7 p.m., May 9
- Pastor Paul Vacation May 10—20
- Mother's Day Corsage Assembly, 9 a.m., May 13
- Needlework Friends, 11 a.m., May 13
- Last Day of Sunday School, May 14
- Ladies Night Out, 7 p.m., May 16
- Child's Play Graduation Ceremony, 7 p.m., May 18
- Blood Drive 8 a.m.—1 p.m., May 20
- Faith Stepping Stone—Graduation, May 21
- Southeastern Synod Assembly, May 26—28
- Office Closed for Memorial Day, May 29

News You Can “Ewes”

VOLUME 6, ISSUE 5

MAY 2017

Congregational Meeting Update

The bi-annual Congregational Meeting took place on Sunday, April 30. Thanks to all confirmed, active members who participated! The July 2017-August 2018 Fiscal Year Budget was approved during the meeting.

In addition, Council President Barb Blanke gave a report that included the following updates:

- A Communications Committee has been formed at GSLC with the mission of continued focus on effective communication with the GSLC congregation utilizing the most effective print and digital media.
- A short-term Mortgage Taskforce has been formed to make recommendations to the Council for new or expanded ministry opportunities that the elimination or mortgage payments will allow when the mortgage expires in May 2018.
- The continued need for Chairperson (s) for the Fellowship Committee was discussed. If interested please see Janice Swinford or Barb Blanke.
- The Personnel Committee is continuing its efforts to advertise and identify candidates for the open Youth Ministry Coordinator role. We thank the congregation for their continued prayers and support of this position and as updates come in we will communicate them to the congregation.
- Several years ago a \$50,000 fund was established for a Remodeling plan. Those plans have been dusted off and will be going out for contractor bids over the summer. When details have been established we will be communicating that to the congregation and a congregational vote will be needed to proceed. Stay tuned for more exciting details!



Hero Central is Live!

VBS 2017

**Hero Central: Discover Your
Strength in God.**

June 26-30, 9 a.m.—Noon

You can now register Pre-K through 5th grade children to attend this year's free Vacation Bible School at GSLC, "Hero Central". Visit gslutheran.org to follow the registration link today!

ABOUT THE LUTHERANS

Women and the Reformation



Argula von Grumbach

“I am prepared to lose everything, even life or limb. May God stand by me.” So wrote Argula von Grumbach (1492–1563/68?) from Bavaria, who found Martin Luther’s message of Christian freedom and equality empowering. This noble woman challenged an entire Catholic university in Ingolstadt in defense of Lutheran faith and a student persecuted for “Lutheran heresy.” This best-selling lay author with her letter-treatises eventually disappeared under pressure from male authorities. Luther considered her a valiant hero of faith.

The Protestant principles “scripture alone,” “grace alone,” and “priesthood of all believers” inspired women just like men to reengage Christian faith and find renewed spiritual meaning in their daily vocations. With the newly written catechisms and hymns, women were equipped to teach the revived faith to their households, where they exercised significant leadership in matters of religious practice. Women lost the monastic option as convents were closed in Protestant areas, but they benefited significantly from the education provided even for peasant girls.

Whereas the Reformation theology proclaimed equality in Christian love and freedom from human-made bonds, women were forbidden to preach or teach in public. Motherhood was presented to women as the holiest of callings, on par with that of apostles and bishops. So women used creativity in embracing their domestic calling and the authority it brought along.

Katharine Schütz Zell (1498–1562), a widely published lay author who had no children of her own, identified herself with a calling of a “church mother.” In this role she exercised pastoral authority by the side of her pastor-husband in Strasbourg, even daring to preach at funerals. Her scintillating writings in defense of marriage may have caused an uproar, yet her pastoral texts and a hymnbook demonstrate her desire to promote ecumenical unity and to empower Christians to sing the gospel with new voices. Like von Grumbach, she also corresponded with Luther.

Another associate of Luther was Duchess Elisabeth von Braunschweig (1485–1555), who used her authority as the “mother of the people in her land” to implement Lutheran faith through legislation. Like her own mother earlier, Elisabeth had suffered exile from her Catholic husband and children once she confessed her faith in public by receiving the sacrament in a Lutheran rite. Her advice to her son, whom she groomed as a Lutheran ruler, was that he should obey God, the emperor—and his mother.

Of all the Reformation mothers, the most famous is Luther’s beloved Katharina von Bora (1499–1552). She won the heart and admiration of Luther, who had orchestrated the escape of Katharina and eleven other nuns from their convent. As his equal “partner in calamity,” Katharina mothered their six children and managed the intricate finances and other affairs of their bustling household. Luther admitted that next to the Holy Spirit, he obeyed his wife—“lord,” Katharina.

These and other mothers of faith took significant risks and endured criticism if not even persecution for their choices. Their involvement was crucial for the new faith to take root.



Katherine von Bora

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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 (21-31)

21. Polluting the atmosphere destroys God's handiwork.
22. God set the earth firmly on the waters.
23. Polluting the waters erodes the earth.
24. The Creator's gift of the earth did not create national boundaries.
25. The earth demonstrates that the world is one community.
26. Keeping the earth is not meant for individual achievement.
27. Keeping the earth brings people together as one community.
28. The community of the earth includes all life.
29. The law will not create a community.
30. The law will not create humanity's care for creation.



Two-Can Sunday!

Don't forget the first Sunday of every month is designated as Two-Can Sunday. Bring your Two-Cans on **May 7!**

Caretakers of Community

For the months of May & June we will focus our Caretakers of Our Community collection efforts on Good Shepherd's Vacation Bible School and MUST Summer Lunch programs. Some of the needed supplies are:

MUST Summer Lunch:

- Peanutbutter
- Jelly
- Juiceboxes
- Sealable sandwich bags
- Sealable snack bags
- Paper lunch sacks
- Food preparation gloves (non latex)

VBS Supplies:

- Empty, clean Baby Food Jars
- New White tagless Men's undershirts size S
- New men's white crew socks size 6-12
- 14mm marbles
- Colorful Fine Point Sharpie Markers
- Packs of small balloons (to be used as water balloons)
- Empty Shoeboxes

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

All items can be dropped off in the designated bins in the church entry way during the months of May and June. All **VBS items will be needed by June 17th**. VBS has also requested additional items but in small quantities. There is sign up list of these additional items located in the entryway as well.

Order Form For Mother's Day Rose Corsages

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. Proceeds from corsage

sales go to support the Lutheran Services of Georgia and their many outreach efforts including refugee resettlement, adoption and foster care services, family intervention services and housing services to individuals with disabilities.



Name _____

Number of Corsages _____ @ \$10 each Total amount enclosed _____

*Please attach cash or check (made payable to Good Shepherd) with "corsage" in the memo, by **Sunday, May 7** and place it in Kathy Gunn's (church office) mail slot or the marked box in the entryway. Your corsage will be waiting for you before each service on Mother's Day morning, May 14th. Thank you for supporting our congregation's mission of sharing the Good News with those outside of our congregation and with those in need.*

Outreach Update...

Dear friends at Good Shepherd,

I hope you had a wonderful and joyous Easter season as we celebrated the resurrection of our Lord! We are in full swing for Spring here at Good Shepherd and I just wanted to pass along a quick update on our many current outreach efforts.

First, let me say thank you to all who have donated to our Give A Kid A Chance backpack program collection effort. We are in our last few weeks of collecting donations for this year's GAKAC event. Every donation of \$20 allows us to provide one school ready backpack filled with all the necessary school supplies. Look for a final update regarding our success and more information on how you can help volunteer at the actual GAKAC event on Saturday, July 15 in the weeks to come.

Mother's Day Corsages: Mother's Day is just around the corner and the Outreach Committee is once again selling Mother's Day Corsages to honor those in our church family who give so much. Rose Corsages are \$10 and all the money raised will benefit the struggling mothers serviced by Lutheran Services of Georgia. Order forms are available in the narthex. Please return your order and payment to the marked box or the church administrator mail slot by Sunday, May 7th. 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 sign up at Sign Up Central in the Fellowship Hall or respond to me at outreach@gslutheran.org

Caretakers of Our Community: For the months of May & June we will focus our Caretakers of Our Community collection efforts on ourself, that is, Good Shepherd's own upcoming summer outreach and evangelism programs. More specifically, we will be collecting supplies for VBS as well as items for our MUST Summer Lunch program. Look for a list of these items on Page 4. Thank you to all who donated to our Caretakers of Our Community collection efforts for the months of March & April. The donations of lightbulbs and small table lamps to benefit the LSG Refugee Resettlement program will be collected by Lutheran Services of Georgia in the next few weeks.

Habitat for Humanity: The Lutheran Coalition for Habitat for Humanity is still underway and they want you! The house being constructed will belong to Good Shepherd members Bob and Barbara Scheitlin's, granddaughter, Angela. The build takes place nearby in Acworth every Saturday until June 24th. Information about the build is posted on the Outreach Board in the administrative hallway. Please sign up at Sign Up Central and registration instructions will be forwarded to you.

As always, thank you for all you do to help support our Outreach efforts at Good Shepherd. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you ever have any questions, suggestions or ideas! I look forward to serving with you soon.

God's Peace,

Kristin Brenneman, Outreach Coordinator, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

Blood Drive is Back!

Remember back in January when it was too icy to make it to church and we had to cancel our blood drive? Well, there's nothing to keep you from getting to GSLC for the May drive! Mark your calendar for Saturday, May 20. Good Shepherd will host a blood drive that day from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. All donors receive a free t-shirt and coupon for a free cheeseburger from Cheeseburger Bobby's! Be sure to sign up to donate!

Sunday School Registration

Register for GSLC's next Sunday School year in the Fellowship Hall after each service on **Sunday, May 7**. Please stop by to verify your information if your child has been enrolled this year or to register any children new to our Sunday School program. We offer Sunday School for children ages 3 through High School. Questions? Contact Sunday School Superintendent, Janice Swinford.

Get Active in a Group...

Yarn Angels meets **Sunday, May 7** from 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. in Room 120.

Needlework Friends meets **Saturday, May 13** from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the home of Susan Epling (260 Orchards Circle, Woodstock) for needlework and fellowship. Bring your projects, learn something new, teach or help another friend. Light refreshments provided. Contact Susan at 678-880-3056 at susanfepling@hotmail.com.

Ladies Night Out meets at Ipp's Pastaria on Main Street in downtown Woodstock at 7 p.m. on **Tuesday, May 16**. Sign up at Sign-Up Central and leave your cell phone number. Thank you!

Council Update, April 2017

Discussions

- Financial Secretary, Jaime Escamilla, reported that February income was \$58,216, which is ahead of budgeted figures.
- The Bi-Annual Congregational Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, April 30. Council and Finance committee members will be available in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday, April 23 and Sunday, April 30 during the Educational Hour to answer any questions you may have.

Accolades

- Many thanks to Mary Tucker, Sue Pence, Nancy Dias, Myra Rissmiller, Bob Scheitlin, Barb Scheitlin, and Pam Strong for their special help in collating the Holy Week and Easter bulletins.
- Accolades to the wonderful crew of 12 who showed up bright and early on Saturday morning to throw pine straw at the church, it looks great!
- Many thanks to everyone who coordinated, donated, and served the Habitat for Humanity build breakfast, especially Max Epling and Michael Epstein.

Fellowship Resumes after 10:45 Worship

Good Shepherd is hosting fellowship/coffee and donuts after the 10:45 service on Sundays. The Fellowship Committee received many requests to bring this fellowship back, but will still be evaluating interest based on attendance. We will resume the fellowship on **Sunday, May 7**.

Don't forget you can sign up to sponsor the donut fellowship at both fellowship hours for \$30. Check out the sheet posted in the Administration Hallway. The Fellowship Committee is still in need of a chairperson to help keep the committee serving the congregation. Contact GSLC council president Barb Blanke if you are willing to fill this need!

Still Time to Build!

The Lutheran Coalition's Habitat for Humanity Spring build is underway! This year's 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. In 2009, Angela went from a married stay-at-home mom to a single mom and employee working hard to pay bills and care for her two kids with medical challenges. Today she works a part time job due to her kids increased health needs.

William (9 years old) has Celiac disease (an autoimmune disorder in which his body rejects gluten), food allergies (that require an epi pen) and environmental allergies. Zoey (8 years old) has had chronic pneumonia and health complications since birth. She has Bronchial Malacia, asthma and other undiagnosed symptoms that cause her to have high fevers for weeks, swollen painful lymph nodes, body aches, over inflammation, etc. A team of doctors at Children's Healthcare of Atlanta & Scottish Rite are working on a diagnosis. Both William and Chloe are great kids who love school, playing outside, telling jokes helping others, and making people smile.

Angela enjoys working at The Home Depot but is limited to part-time work due to Zoey's chronic health issues and the many doctor's appointments she must take her to while they work towards a diagnosis. She has worked very hard to provide for her family. Her motto to every challenge is: "With God's help, I got this!"

The build takes place nearby in Acworth and Good Shepherd was responsible for providing lunch and breakfast on two of the build days. The build began on March 25 and goes through July 15. The complete 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 and family. 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. Volunteers must be 16 years or older with the exception of Youth Landscaping day on June 24. This day is open to all ages.



Above, members of the Empty Nesters helped provide breakfast at the Habitat build recently. Pictured from left to right are: xxx, Max Epling, Michael Epstein, Jaime Escamilla and xx.

REMAINING DATES

MAY 6, 13 & 20, JUNE 3,10,17, 24 (YOUTH DAY)

DEDICATION – SATURDAY, JULY 15TH

SATURDAY HOURS ARE 8 AM TO 4 PM AND YOU CAN WORK IN HALF DAY SHIFTS.

SIGN UP AT SIGN UP CENTRAL

GSLC Offices Closed May 29

GSLC
Administrative
Offices will be
closed, Monday,
May 29 in
observance of the
Memorial Day
holiday.

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.

FX3 visits Stars & Strikes!

Bumper cars,
bowling, balloons
and more! FX3
members recently
visited Stars and
Strikes for an
afternoon of great
fun.



*Pictured from left to right are: (back row) Emma Trapani, Anna Freeman, Elliana Mathews, Trent Ezell, Andrew Jacobs
(front row) Lily Jacobs, Alena Ezell, Brooke Myers, Reese Nichols*