



News You Can “Ewes”

VOLUME 5, ISSUE 2

FEBRUARY 2016

HAPPENING NOW

- Men in Mission at Panera in Towne Lake, 7 p.m., February 3
- Blood Drive, 8 a.m.—1 p.m., February 6
- New Member Sunday, February 7
- First Communion, 9:30 a.m., Feb. 7
- FX3 and confirmation, 12:30 p.m., February 7
- Outreach Committee, Noon, February 7
- Yarn Angels, Noon, February 7
- Faith Formation Committee, 7 p.m., February 8
- NEW—Ladies Luncheon, 11:30 a.m., February 9
- Church council meeting, 7 p.m., February 9
- Ash Wednesday Services, Noon & 7:30 p.m., February 10
- Youth Mission Trip Fundraiser Dinner, 6 p.m., February 10
- Needlework Friends, 11 a.m., February 13

Lent Begins February 10



...Today with the whole church we enter the time of remembering Jesus' passover from death to life, and our life in Christ is renewed. We are called to a discipline that contends against evil and resists whatever leads us away from love of God and neighbor. I invite you, therefore, to the discipline of Lent—self-examination and repentance, prayer and fasting, sacrificial giving and works of love—strengthened by the gifts of word and sacrament.

[Ash Wednesday Liturgy, Evangelical Lutheran Worship]

For a number of years, during Lent, it has been our practice to encourage members, committees and groups of GSLC to *unplug* from some of the business of life, in order to create time for Bible study, prayer and worship. It's also a good time to create space in your personal life for devotions.

During the last two years, our Stewardship Committee has challenged us to *Return the Blessing*. They've given us a number of different ways to consider how we might return to God some of the abundance we have been blessed with, like *Return the Blessing with Service* and *Return the Blessing with Offerings*. In Lent, we are invited to *Return the Blessing Devotionally*. The focus will be on developing your own spirituality or devotional life. To that end, the Stewardship Committee has compiled a Lenten devotional book for you with daily meditations written by members of Good Shepherd. These will be distributed/mailed to the congregation prior to **Ash Wednesday, February 10**.

For the Wednesdays of Lent, the pastors will engage us in a series: **Sensing the Gospel**. Humans experience life through our five senses: Touch, Sight, Taste, Hearing and Smell. Jesus revealed God in ways that include these same senses so that our experience with God is very real and tangible.

Wednesday worship services, beginning Ash Wednesday, February 10, are at noon and 7:30p.m. See page 3 for information about Soup and Salad Suppers that take place before each service.

February 10: Ash Wednesday Liturgy with Imposition of Ashes
February 17: TOUCH
February 24: SIGHT
March 2: TASTE
March 9: HEARING
March 16: SMELL



Bishop Gordy Visits GSLC

“Activist Spirituality or Spirituality for Activists”

The Stewardship Committee of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church is pleased to invite you, your family, and friends to join our special guest speaker, **Bishop Julian Gordy, presiding Bishop of the ELCA-Southeastern Synod**, on **Saturday, February 27 at 7 p.m.** and **Sunday, February 28, at the 8, 9:30 and 11 a.m. worship services.** In consideration of our Lenten theme “Return the Blessing Devotionally,” Bishop Gordy will address “Activist Spirituality or Spirituality for Activists.” The Saturday evening event will be held in the GSLC Fellowship Hall. A dessert fellowship will follow. Bishop Gordy will continue his reflections as our guest preacher in our Sunday morning worship services. He will also serve as a guest judge for our 6th Annual Heart-Burn Chili Cook-Off.

Please sign up at Sign-Up Central or RSVP at 770-924-7286 for the Saturday presentation.

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Lenten Bible Study

Good Shepherd youth Taylor Epstein invites you to a Bible Study on the book of Jonah. As a part of her senior project for school, Taylor has prepared to lead a study for adults and youth on Wednesday nights during Lent. Beginning on **Wednesday, February 10**, the four-week study will meet from 6:15 – 7 p.m. Participants will have plenty of time to prepare for 7:30 p.m. Lenten worship. Come learn about answering God’s call as part of your Lenten devotionals practices.



Two-Can Sundays!

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



December YTD Budgeted Income Summary *

Target \$688,859
 Received \$679,078
 Ahead/Behind (\$9,780)
 Percent of Target 98.6%

** Detailed Income and Expense reports are posted on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall. For questions, please see Mary McCoy, Treasurer, or Mike Angalet, Financial Secretary.*

Trying to Reach us?

You may know that Good Shepherd’s phone system died and we are working to correct that. Currently we have only two lines coming into the offices and no voice mail. That will be the situation for the foreseeable future as we want to take the time for making the best decision regarding a new system. We apologize for the inconvenience and thank you for your patience. You can always email staff at:

- Pastor Paul—pastorpaul@gslutheran.org
- Pastor Justin—pastorjustin@gslutheran.org
- Kathy Gunn—office@gslutheran.org
- Meredith Hale — media@gslutheran.org
- Kristin Brenneman—outreach@gslutheran.org
- Janice Swinford — inreach@gslutheran.org or sundayschool@gslutheran.org

Lenten Soup and Salad Suppers

Prior to the Ash Wednesday and Wednesday Lenten services GSLC hosts Lenten Soup and Salad Suppers. The meal is served from 6-7pm. 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 will provide rolls, crackers and beverages.

Host Groups

February 10 — Youth Mission Trip Fundraiser

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

February 17 — Outreach, Fellowship and Congregational Care

February 24 — Facilities and Maintenance and Mutual Ministry

March 2 — Stewardship and Mission Endowment

March 9 — Worship and Personnel

March 16 — Faith Formation and Finance

Save the Date

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church staff will participate in CPR training on Wednesday, March 30 at 2 p.m. Any member of the congregation who wishes to do so may participate. The class lasts approximately 2.5 hours and costs \$45. If you are interested, please contact Kathy Gunn in the church office at 770-924-7286 or office@gslutheran.org.

Blood Drive

Good shepherd Lutheran church hosts a Blood Drive on **Saturday, February 6** from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Be sure to sign up to give blood!

Under 18...

Confirmation and FX3 meet at 12:30 p.m. on **February 7** and **February 21** for pizza lunch followed by small groups. Confirmation topics include "Being Human" on February 7 and "The Ten Commandments" on February 10.

Saints and Sinners Youth Group continues to meet every Wednesday night with dinner at 6:30 p.m. followed by activities.

First Communion

First Communion will be celebrated on **Sunday, February 7** at the **9:30 a.m. service**. Please plan to support our youngsters in this important day of their faith journeys.

Habitat for Humanity

Get ready to build something! The *Lutheran Coalition* is back on for a Habitat for Humanity Build in 2016. Good Shepherd will partner with the Cobb build group and build in Cobb County this time. Watch for a schedule and details in future GSLC bulletins and newsletter, but mid-March through May will have lots of Saturday opportunities to serve! Good Shepherd is slated to provide Lunch on March 19 and Breakfast on May 7 so we may need some help with that too!

For details, contact Max Epling or Greg Hayes. Thank you!

Warm Up to These Events...

Men in Mission meets Wednesdays at 7 p.m. for approximately two hours each week. All are welcome to join this group in study, fellowship and service projects. Contact Jaime Escamilla for more information. The next meeting takes place **February 3** at Panera Bread in Towne Lake.

Yarn Angels meets on **Sunday, February 7** after the 11 a.m. service in Room 116. Join us!

Two-Can Sunday is **February 7**. Don't forget to bring your two cans of food for our hunger initiatives!

New! Ladies Luncheon on **Tuesday, February 9** at **11:30 a.m.** for lunch at Chili's located on Towne Lake Parkway. Please sign up at Sign Up Central.

Needlework Friends will meet on **Saturday, February 13** from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the home of Susan Epling (260 Orchards Circle, Woodstock) for needlework and fellowship. Contact Susan at 678-880-3056 or email at susanfepling@hotmail.com.

Help Wanted!

The Praise Team is looking for singers, guitar, bass and percussion players for the 9:30 a.m. service. This is an easy, limited commitment of time — make the Saturday rehearsal from 9-11 a.m. then sing/play the following morning on Sunday 9-10:30 a.m. Singers should have some choir background in middle school, high school, church or college. Sign-up sheets are at Sign-up Central. Please sign up, microphones can be limited some weeks. Questions? Contact Pam Weinelt at 770-861-2310 or pamela.weinelt@outlook.com.

Council Update, January 2016

Discussions

- Financial Secretary, Mike Angalet, reported that December 2015 was the best giving month within the past 5 years
- The Facilities and Maintenance Committee reported that 8 of the 16 sanctuary replacement windows have been sponsored
- The council voted to approve a monetary gift for LSG in the amount of \$1500
- Bettina Miller has been appointed to the Mission Endowment Committee as the Council representative
- Council members will be participating in a Leadership workshop on February 27th to determine mission priorities and develop a 5 year plan

Accolades

- All who assisted with the Advent Soup and Salad Suppers by providing food and by helping with set up and clean up
- The many worship assistants, singers, and musicians who provided their time and talent during Advent and Christmas
- The many volunteers who collate bulletins throughout the year
- Those who dedicated altar flowers during 2015
- Those who answered the call to serve on the Congregation Council in 2016
- All who served as committee co-chairs or committee members in 2015
- All who accepted the call to serve as committee co-chairs or committee members for 2016

Nursery Help Needed!

The babies of Good Shepherd need your help! We need more volunteers in nursery at both the 9:30 and 11am services. Nursery schedules are based on your availability, so if all you can give is once a month, that would still be greatly appreciated. This does require the Children and Youth Protection class be completed before volunteering. Please see Josie Wolfe or Janice Swinford if you are interested or have questions.

Sanctuary Windows

Notice anything different in the sanctuary? The new windows are in! Over the next few weeks the staining, caulking and other final touches will be done to the windows, but the Facilities and Maintenance committee sends a big thank you to everyone who donated to this project!

Monies from a dedicated account were used to replace the windows, with the cost of eight new windows donated by church members. It's not too late to help pay the dedicated account back! If you would consider donating toward this project the cost of a full window is \$1,500. Please mark any donation "Sanctuary Windows". Thank you!

Outreach News

- The Outreach Committee meets on **Sunday, February 7** after the 11 a.m. service in the Adult Sunday School room. If you are unable to attend, there will be an abbreviated meeting on **Sunday, February 14** at 10:30 a.m. in Room 120. Join us!
- As caretakers of our community, Good Shepherd hosts bi-monthly collections of goods for organizations in the area. This month's Caring for our Community collection is for the CARE Center, benefitting the homeless KSU student population. Information on CARE and items needed can be found in the entryway as well as the boxes where you can drop off your donations.

6th Annual Heart Burn Chili Cook-Off Sunday, February 28

Do you have a great chili recipe that has been passed down through your family? How about a delicious new twist on chili that you've been dying to try? The youth of Good Shepherd are challenging you to enter a pot of your best chili in the 6th Annual Heart Burn Chili Cook-Off. All members of Good Shepherd are invited to compete in two tests of kitchen skill. The first competition tests the taste of your chili and a prize will be awarded to the best-tasting chili. A second prize will be awarded to the chili with the most creative name so be sure your chili is well-named before you fill out the entry form. This form must be completed and turned in to Pastor Justin before **February 21** if you plan to compete.

And, with all this chili around we'll need plenty of people to eat it. Plan to join us after 11 a.m. worship for a wonderful chili lunch with a free-will donation going to support the youth mission trips at Good Shepherd. Be sure to come in a "judging mood" since members of the congregation will be expected to pick the chili with the most creative name. In addition, Bishop Gordy will be a special guest judge! Look for entry forms at Sign-Up Central.

Empty Nesters News

The Empty Nesters extend an EXTRA BIG THANK YOU to Ed & Judy Roberts, Nancy Dias, and Karen & Tom Britts for leading this year's Christmas party and to Tim and Karen Ferg for leading us so beautifully in a carol sing!

Secondly, as you are breaking in your new 2016 planners/calendars, please mark **February 27** for volunteering at Forever Fed...our regular 4th Saturday evening of the month. The January date was cancelled due to inclement weather so we may need extra help this month!

The Empty Nesters are an adult fellowship ministry open to singles and couples of all ages; those who are "Empty Nesters", or would like to be for an Empty Nesters' event. While our primary focus is Christian fellowship, we also strive to serve others to support the mission of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church. Please contact Geoff Morton at gmorton6564@gmail.com to be included on the Empty Nesters' email distribution list.

HAPPENING LATER

- Ladies Night Out, 7 p.m., February 16
- Lenten Soup and Salad Supper, 6 p.m., February 17
- Lenten Service, Noon and 7:30 p.m., February 17
- Confirmation & FX3, 12:30 p.m., February 21
- Lenten Soup and Salad Supper, 6 p.m., February 24
- Lenten Service, Noon and 7:30 p.m., February 24
- Bishop Gordy presentation, 7 p.m., February 27
- GSLC council Retreat, February 27
- Bishop Gordy preaches at 8, 9:30 & 11 a.m., February 27
- Chili Cook-Off, Noon, February 28

God's Little Achers

The God's Little Achers Senior Group is planning to visit the Booth Western Art Museum on **Thursday, February 18**. Please meet at church at Noon to carpool to the Museum in Cartersville, GA. We plan to have lunch at the Museum before the tour. We are especially looking forward to visiting the Ansel Adams Exhibit. Please sign up at Sign-Up Central. Questions or additional information please call Reba Sumner at 770-516-3502 or Sandy Cerstvik at 770-928-4627.

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 A.M. TRADITIONAL
9:30 A.M. PRAISE
11 A.M. TRADITIONAL
6 P.M. "THE BRIDGE" - CONTEMPORARY, LAID-BACK
SUNDAY SCHOOL AT 9:30 A.M.



"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,

Save the Date!

**Ash Wednesday, February 10
6—7 p.m.**

Join us for an Italian feast to benefit youth participating in our summer mission trips to Savannah and Washington, D.C.

Suggested donation \$5 per person with a maximum of \$20 per family. All are welcome!



GOOD SHEPHERD
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