

March

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

News You Can “Ewes”

VOLUME 9, ISSUE 3

MARCH 2020

CALENDAR

1st	1st Sunday in Lent Traditional Worship 8:30 am Sunday School 9:45 am Praise Service 10:45 am Two-Can Sunday Yarn Angels 10:30 Mtg. Room Birthday Bash- 11:45 am
3rd	Mutual Ministry 6:30 pm
4th	Wednesday Lent Services: Noon/7:30 pm Fellowship 11:15 am & 6:45 pm
5th	Executive Committee Mtg. 7 pm
8th	2nd Sunday in Lent Traditional Worship 8:30 am Sunday School 9:45 am Praise Service 10:45 am Caring for Creation 12 pm Confirmation/FX3 12:30 pm
9th	Finance Committee mtg. 7pm
10th	Council Meeting 7:00 pm
11th	Wednesday Lent Services: Noon/7:30 pm Fellowship 11:15 am & 6:45 pm Staff Meeting 10:30 am
14th	Needlework Friends-11 am at Susan Epling home
15th	3rd Sunday in Lent Traditional Worship 8:30 am Sunday School 9:45 am Praise Service 10:45 am Hunger Walk 12-4 pm
17th	Ladies Night Out 7pm
18th	Wednesday Lent Services: Noon/7:30 pm Fellowship 11:15 am & 6:45 pm
22nd	4th Sunday in Lent Traditional Worship 8:30 am Sunday School 9:45 am Praise Service 10:45 am Confirmation/FX3 12:30 pm Saints and Sinners 2-5 pm
25th	Wednesday Lent Services: Noon/7:30 pm Fellowship 11:15 am & 6:45 pm
29nd	5th Sunday in Lent Traditional Worship 8:30 am Sunday School 9:45 am Praise Service 10:45 am CYP Class 12pm
30th	CYP class 7 pm

A publication of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Woodstock, GA

The Stewardship Committee would like to thank everyone who completed and returned a pledge and service form for the stewardship campaign for 2020-21. These forms are vital for planning for the future ministries of GSLC. The Stewardship Committee would like to share the current number of forms received.

-142 Spiritual Gifts Forms -140 Offering Forms

- ♥ 78 Simply Giving
- ♥ 3 GivePlus
- ♥ 40 Envelopes
- ♥ 19 Simply Giving with no pledge



Over the next few months, we will highlight the various committees that the majority of our Spiritual Gifts fall under. The goal of this is to give a better understanding of the roles of the committees and spark an interest to become more involved with Good Shepherd in the future. Thank you for making Good Shepherd a part of your life.

Committee Spotlight: Faith Formation



The Faith Formation committee formed as a combination of two previously independent committees - Christian Education and Youth. As expected when that merger happened almost ten years ago, that resulted in not just combined tasks, but a wonderful bonus of members from both committees coming together. As the years have progressed and the congregation has changed with both staff members as well as committee members, we are very blessed to have the following people currently serving on the Faith Formation committee: Gina Crittenden, Carlie Epstein, Karen Epstein, Carrie Escamilla, Sebastian Escamilla (Council liaison), Deborah Ezell, Kristin Freeman, Melinda Mundis (Council liaison), Shelley Trampnau, and staff members Cat Ontiveros and Janice Swinford as committee chairs.

On each committee at Good Shepherd, the work is never able to be done by just the staff of the congregation or the liaisons from Council. Committee members on Faith Formation assist greatly in the fundraisers that are done for the youth trips, registration for Sunday School each year, fresh ideas to help better the programming, and extra hands to assist in things like Vacation Bible School. The Faith Formation committee has activities year round and therefore meets monthly. This active committee is extremely grateful for the dedicated work of the committee members and welcomes anyone who would like to participate to come to a meeting and share their energy for faith growth of all members and engagement of the youth. See Cat or Janice for more information and thank you for keeping this committee in your prayers for continued growth in our ministry.

Council Update

February 2020

Discussions

- The chili cook-off raised over \$1,000 to support youth participating in activities such as the All Georgia Youth Gathering and summer mission trips. We discussed how to continue to keep the congregation's awareness of the importance of these activities for the church as a whole.
- Financial secretary Geoff Morton reported that the stewardship drive is winding up with 140 pledges for \$475,240. This is up \$10,000 over last year.
- In other good financial news, treasurer Mary McCoy reported that the year to date actual income is ahead of budgeted income.
- Pastor Paul reported on changes to the congregation constitution mandated by the Churchwide Assembly. He and Mary Tucker made those changes which were approved by Council. Updates to the wedding guidelines were also approved. These changes have been posted online.
- Plans are moving forward for maintenance on the parking lot. Currently, contractors are being contacted for estimates and bids.

A note of thanks....

Accolades from our Church Council

- A big thank you to Marc Duclos and Boy Scout Troop #6410 for their service on Scout Sunday.
- Many thanks to the Stewardship Committee for running a successful campaign.
- Thank you to Mary Tucker for help with the changes to the congregation's constitution.
- Many thanks to Faith Formation Committee and all the donors for the Chili Cook-off. The event raised over \$1000.
- Thank you to Max Epling for working with our insurance company on the payroll fraud claim.
- Many thanks to the adults who helped with the confirmation retreat : Julie Hackett, Patrick Swinford, Cat Ontiveros, and Tim Mathews.

Vacation Bible School



Vacation Bible School is one of the major outreach events of the year. We have numerous children and youth from around our area and within our doors to minister to and just have some fun. More information will be coming soon, but please make sure to hold the date for VBS: July 13-17, 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. Watch for sign-up sheets to volunteer coming soon in Fellowship Hall.

Let's talk Easter Brunch!

Easter is right around the corner! I can already smell the wonderful aromas coming from the Fellowship Hall. Brunch will be served between the 8:30 am and 10:45 am services. Watch for sign-up sheets coming soon.



Getting Ready for Easter

Easter Lily Order Form

March 29th is the last day to place your order.



_____ Number of Lilies ordered at \$10 each

_____ Total amount enclosed

*Please make checks payable to "GSLC"
and note "Lilies" on the memo line.*

In Celebration of _____

In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____

Your Name _____ Phone _____

*Please include check with your order, made out to GSLC & place in the slot outside the
Office Coordinator's office in the Administration Hallway.*

Thank you.

ADVOCACY is not a four-letter word...

Advocacy is defined as "public support for or recommendation of a particular cause or policy". As the ELCA, we believe God is calling us into the world to serve together. Through our direct service, we aid immediate needs before us. Through our advocacy work, we impact systemic, long-lasting change. **In baptism we promise to "strive for justice and peace in all the earth".**

On February 1st, several members of the GSLC Caring for Creation Team attended the 5th Annual ELCA Southeastern Synod Advocacy Gathering "Transformed by Grace – To Serve Our Neighbor". We learned about four areas of upcoming Georgia legislation and additional ways to serve:

Georgia Justice Project – Criminal Justice Legislation "Second Chances for People with Records" (TBD – 7 bills in various stages)

Caring for Creation – Coal Ash Surcharge (SB123)

Healthcare – Tobacco Excise Tax (HB731)

Immigration – although no particular legislation was covered, we heard a moving presentation on "Who is Coming and Why".

We also had the opportunity to meet the newly appointed SES Assistant to the Bishop and Director of Advocacy, Pastor Matt Steinhauer.

To learn more about the Advocacy in the ELCA and our Synod, check out the following resources:

[ELCA Advocacy](#)

Follow **ELCA Advocacy** on FaceBook

Follow **Southeastern Synod Advocacy Team** on FaceBook



Confirmation



The Confirmation class will meet on March 8 and 22nd from 12:30 until 2 p.m. Our lessons will cover Peter, Paul and Theology and the book of Revelation Please remember to be working on your projects. You will be presenting them at our April classes.

FX3

For our meeting on March 8, we will be looking at the Temptation of Jesus. Our second meeting of the month will be on March 22nd. We will be talking about all things Holy Week and Easter. We will have some fun projects for both lessons. Join us from 12:30 to 2 p.m. Remember friends are always welcome.



Saints & Sinners

Mark your calendars for our March meeting on Sunday, March 22nd from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. Check your email to vote on which activity we'll do.



Summer Opportunities



Register now! All registrations are open. Please see the following instructions for your age group. Once you've registered, please let Cat know by signing up on the sheet outside her office. Be sure to check the website for more information on these opportunities.

FX3 – Buckaroos week at [Lutheranch](http://www.lutheranch.org), July 5-10th, Cost: \$429 if you register before 3/15/20. Register at: <https://www.lutheranch.org/summer-camps-grade-school>

FLY (Middle School Youth) – **Option 1: Affirm**, June 14-19, 2020, Cost: \$425. Register at: www.sesyouth.org, Registration closes: May 1st

Option 2: Week at [Lutheridge](http://www.lutheridge.org), Scheduled to fit your schedule, Cost: Varies based on week chosen. Register at: <https://www.lutheridge.org/summer-camps-middle-school>

Saints and Sinners (High School Youth) – **Option 1: Lutheranch**, Ranch Hands Service week, July 5-10, 2020, Cost \$450. Registration and Deposits: we register as a group so please turn in your deposit to Cat.

Option 2: Affirm, June 14-19, 2020, Cost: \$425. Register at: www.sesyouth.org, Registration closes: May 1st .

We will coordinate transportation for each event, with the participants going and/or through Good Shepherd.

A BIG THANK YOU to all that came out to support our youth for the Ash Wednesday, Italian Feast. We raised over \$600 which will go toward youth summer trips! You are such a blessing in the support of our future church.



Scholarships

We at Good Shepherd never want any of our youth to miss out on an opportunity due to cost. We have a scholarship fund that is available for any event. Please let Cat know if you need financial assistance. Contributions to scholarships are always welcome.



Faithful Lutheran Youth

Attention Middle School Youth!! Our next outing will be a family outing. We would love for all families to participate in the Atlanta Hunger Walk. It will take place Sunday, March 15th. There will be bounce houses, games, service projects, food trucks and of course a 5k walk/run. Please see the bulletin and announcements for more information and how to sign up.



All Georgia Recap

We had an amazing weekend at the All Georgia Synod event. We took 10 youth and 4 adults to Camp Grace in Roberta, GA to be in fellowship and learn about how God is working in our lives. The theme for the weekend was CHOSEN. We looked at the story of Moses and how God chose him over and over. We talked about how God spoke to him and he didn't feel worthy or equipped to accomplish the task (remember he was slow of speech and tongue), and how he let his fear get the best of him. We heard stories that connected to Moses' story from Pastor Andrew Rickel, Bishop Kevin Strickland, and Pastor Mary Armstrong-Reiner. We discussed and shared stories of our own in our small



groups to process what we just heard. Even though our times are different, we still have the same struggles and issues as they did in the past. We prepared pillowcases to be sewn into dresses and shirts for girls and boys in a community in Nicaragua. We danced and worshiped and all of this in one weekend. Thank you to all who helped support our youth in attendance of this trip. A special thank you to Deborah Ezell, Bill Alderfer and Eric Dias for spending the weekend in community with our youth.



SUNDAY MORNING CLASSES

Sunday School (ages 2-adult)

Sunday School meets at 9:45 am. Elementary age children meet in room 115 for a group opening. Preschool age students meet in the nursery. If you have questions or need to register for our program, please contact Janice Swinford, Sunday School Superintendent, at sundayschool@gslutheran.org.



Coffee & Conversation (adult)

meets in room #111, Sunday mornings at 9:45 am. We use the Augsburg Adult Bible Studies as our foundation for discussion and learning. These studies are drawn from many parts of the Bible. Our current topic is "Justice and the Prophets". Each lesson is individualized, so come anytime, bring your coffee or tea, and join us.



Men in Mission will continue to meet Sunday mornings at 9:45 am in room 116. An ELCA sponsored mission for men that provides support and guidance for men of all ages. Stop in or contact Jaime Escamilla for more information.



Faith Stories (adult)

During the first few months of 2020, the Faith Stories Adult Sunday School group will be using several short-term studies to delve into issues that we have been wondering about (including heaven and hell). If you are interested in learning more, contact Mary Tucker.

Lenten History Lesson

Though the date of Easter varies, the majority of the Lenten season occurs during March. In fact, the word Lent comes from the Anglo-Saxon words lenctentid (meaning “March”)

WEEKDAY BIBLE STUDIES

Monday Lunch & Learn

We meet Mondays in the Meeting Room, and typically gather at noon for lunch and begin our study around 12:30 pm. Our current study is titled, “Finding God Faithful” by Kelly Minter. We would love to have you join us.



Word on Wednesday

We invite you to join us Wednesday mornings at 9:30 in the meeting room as we journey through “Luke The Apostolic Gospel” by Dr. David Tiede. No experience necessary. Contact Lori Peters through the church office for further



Thursday Morning Bible Study

We meet on Thursday mornings at 10 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. We are currently in a study on the Gospel of John. Contact [Pastor Paul](#) for any additional information. All are welcome to attend.



and lencten (meaning “spring”).

The first reference to Lent dates back to 325 AD, in one of the 20 canons decreed at the council of Nicaea. By the eighth century, Christians started observing Lent, and a 10th-century monk named Aelfric connected the use of ashes and “the Lenten fast” to the pre-Easter period.

Lent lasts 40 days to represent Jesus’ time in the wilderness, when he was tempted by the devil. The six Sundays that occur between Ash Wednesday and Easter Sunday aren’t counted as part of Lent; instead, as the traditional day of worship, they’re considered “mini-Easters.”



March Events



Two-Can Sunday is
March 1st
 Bring in your Canned Goods
 for support of our local food
 initiatives.
 Thank you for all your support!



Yarn Angels
 Sunday, March 1st
 Room 120, 10:30 am

Attention all Ushers and Greeters

There will be an important training meeting following both services next Sunday, March 8th. The primary focus of this training is to review responsibilities and implement new safety protocols. Please plan to attend if you volunteer in one of these roles.



Needlework Friends

Saturday, March 14, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. Bring your sewing projects. Light refreshments will be served. We will meet at the home of Susan Epling. Contact the church office or Susan for more information.



Ladies Night Out

Tuesday, March 17th, 7 p.m. at **Game Day Grill**



2990 Eagle Dr,
 Woodstock

Sign-up at Sign-Up Central and leave your cell phone number. Contact Sue Pence for more

Wednesday Lent Schedule Services at Noon and 7:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY 1 (March 4)
Go Forth Into the World to Serve God With Gladness; Be Of Good Courage
 Matthew 28:16-20
 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8

WEDNESDAY 2 (March 11)
Hold Fast to That Which Is Good; Render to No One Evil for Evil
 Romans 12:14-21
 1 Peter 3:8-11

WEDNESDAY 3 (March 18)
Strengthen the Fainthearted; Support the Weak; Help the Afflicted
 1 Thessalonians 5:12-22
 1 John 3:11-18

WEDNESDAY 4 (March 25)
Honor All People
 Proverbs 14:31
 Romans 12:9-13

WEDNESDAY 5 (April 1)
Love and Serve God, Rejoicing In the Power of the Holy Spirit
 Ephesians 3:14-21
 1 Thessalonians 1:2-7
 Philippians 4:8-9

The Fellowship Committee will be serving light refreshments prior to all of the Wednesday Lenten services, 45 minutes before the service. Come and enjoy some social time with your Good Shepherd Family.

Child and Youth Protection Class (CYP)

is scheduled for both Sunday, March 29th at noon, downstairs in the Movie Lounge, or Monday, March 30th at 7 p.m. In the Meeting Room. Please sign-up at Sign-Up Central or let Cat know if you are attending, so we can make sure we have adequate materials. This class is required for anyone who would like to work with VBS or any of our children and youth programs.



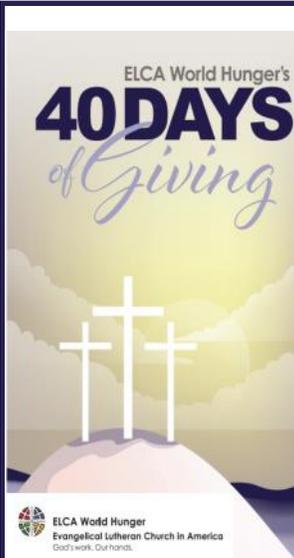
Caring for Creation

Join us for our next planning meeting, March 8th, at Noon, following the 10:45 am service. We will be tending to the Garden of Grace, near our garage in the parking lot, to prepare for Spring planting. Wear your garden gloves, some old clothes and come and join us.



The Caring for Creation Committee would like to thank everyone who has contributed to our recycling efforts. Please continue to use Good Shepherd as a drop off location for all your

oral care items and batteries. Please place these items in the marked receptacles in Fellowship Hall.



What is *our* hope?
What is *your* hope?

Even in challenging times, we believe in God, and we hope in the work God is doing in the world. Safety and stability for refugees and migrants. The renewal of the earth. Sufficient livelihood for all. These are just a few of the things of which we dream, fueled by the Holy Spirit. This Lent, join ELCA World Hunger as we journey with our neighbors in hope for a just world where all are fed. Invest in hope.

Coin Boxes Available in Fellowship Hall

The Outreach Committee is supplying coin boxes this Lenten season to benefit the ELCA World Hunger initiative. Help yourself to the available coin boxes in the Fellowship Hall, until supplies run out. Collect your loose change throughout Lent. We will collect the boxes after Easter. Let's make a difference with the loose change we often see as insignificant. Explore stories of Hope, Liberation and Restoration, as we feature one story each week through our social media channels. Be sure friend us at [Instagram](#) or [Facebook](#) and share the posts with your friends.

You may also want to consider a daily e-mail series subscription that people can sign up for during Lent, featuring the ELCA's goal to end World Hunger. Access that subscription here.

<https://community.elca.org/40-days-subscription>



a little of this and a little of that...

Sunday School Registration

There will be two Sundays on which you can register your child for the 2020-21 Sunday School year - March 22 and 29. If you have a child ages 2 through rising senior in high school for the next school year, please stop by the registration table in the Fellowship Hall. This is open to both members and visitors. If you have your child currently enrolled, please stop by to verify their information and please remember to let us know of any allergies as well. If you have any questions about registration or anything else about either current or upcoming Sunday School classes, please contact Janice Swinford, Sunday School Superintendent at sundayschool@gslutheran.org. We look forward to another wonderful year of learning and growing in faith.



Continuing Prayers List
Is available online at gslutheran.org

Safety Tips

- For quick communication during an emergency, walkie talkies are carried by the ushers as well as Janice Swinford, one is located in the nursery during services. During the Sunday School hour there is one in an upstairs classroom and one in a downstairs classroom.
- Maps of the church are located in the Administrative hallway outside the Office Coordinator's door to assist in a Lost Person emergency. Have a staff member assist if this emergency occurs.
- Stay calm and control your breathing for clearest thinking during an emergency.
- As a courtesy, let the office know if you plan on stopping by the church.
- Good Shepherd, or any staff member, will never solicit for any payments or favors to be received by retail gift cards.

Have pictures to share from a Good Shepherd event? Have you been featured in the newspaper? Send the information to our Media Coordinator, Donna Garges, at media@gslutheran.org and we will try to get it posted on our Facebook/Instagram posts or featured in our next newsletter.



Our Facebook page is www.facebook.com/gslcwoodstock and our Instagram page is www.instagram.com/gslutheran.

A great way to share the good news of Christ is to share our pages and to do it often!





Hunger Walk/Run 2020 Sunday, March 15 at 2:00 pm

- Fundraiser for Atlanta food ministry charities, including In Spiritus
- Thousands of people across Atlanta participate
- Fun for all ages, including children

You can support in two ways:

- Register to Walk or Run: \$25 Walker/ \$35 Runner
- Financially support with a donation
- Our Goal is \$3,000 and 30 walker/runners

Website for registration and donations:

<http://bit.ly/gslchungerwalk>

Or write a check to Good Shepherd, designating “Hunger Walk” as recipient

Site is Home Depot Backyard, near downtown Atlanta. We carpool after the 10:45am service. Length of walk is 5K, which is three miles. See Gail Tverberg Setzer for more information.

Attention Empty Nesters and Fly Middle School Youth: The Hunger Walk is the designated event for March, so register today, dust off those walking shoes, grab a friend or two and join in on the fun!

Habitat for Humanity Lutheran Coalition/ Habitat North Central Georgia 2020 Build

Mark your calendars, then come and help us provide affordable housing in our community. Experience is not necessary, just a willingness to help and enjoy fellowship with fellow area Lutherans. This year, our build will be in Canton at 160 Garrison Trail.

Build dates (all Saturdays) and activities are as follows:

February 29	First nail – first floor framing
March 7	Second floor system/joists/decking
April 4	Siding
April 25	Drywall/siding/paint
May 2	Drywall
May 30	Paint trim/touch-up

If you are interested in participating in the build on any or all of these dates or need more information, please contact Mike Dooley or Max Epling.

[Register here](#) or for more information go online at www.gslutheran.org



2020 Good Shepherd Music Fundraiser

Our musicians need your support!

The music groups of Good Shepherd are teaming up to raise funds to update, refurbish and repurpose our equipment. Several of our instruments and equipment are over 20 years old.

We have a goal of \$11,000 for the following:

Handbell Cases and hand carts for storing and moving equipment from the Music Room to the Sanctuary	\$1,500
Handbell tables and risers	\$2,500
Foam padding and muslin covers	\$1,000
New speakers and cabling for Praise Team	\$3,200
New keyboard for Praise Team	\$2,300
Costs to repurpose the old keyboard for use in the Music Room	\$500
CURRENT GIFTS –THANK YOU!	\$4,210

GOOD SHEPHERD SCRAPBOOK PAGE



**Scout Sunday
Troopack #6410**



**Empty Nesters
Marti Party Artists**



**Needlework
Friends**

**FX3
Mardi Gras**



**Council
Installation**



**Ladies Night Out
February**

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

1208 ROSE CREEK DRIVE

WOODSTOCK, GA 30189

770-924-7286

GSLUTHERAN.ORG

**DID YOU
FORGET
SUNDAY'S
ANNOUNCEMENTS?**

Go to
www.gslutheran.org
and look for the quick
link to Sunday
Bulletin
Announcements.



Online:
Gslutheran.org

**Want to see Good
Shepherd Facebook posts
first? Prioritize our page in
your news feed settings!
Like us and share often!**

**on
Facebook:
[GSLCWoodstock](https://www.facebook.com/GSLCWoodstock)**

**Instagram:
[@gslutheran](https://www.instagram.com/gslutheran)**



**“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.

AN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA (ELCA) CONGREGATION
SERVING NORTH COBB AND CHEROKEE COUNTY COMMUNITIES.

JOIN US!

8:30 A.M. TRADITIONAL SERVICE

9:45 A.M. SUNDAY SCHOOL

10:45 A.M. PRAISE SERVICE