

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Jesus,

Every year we take a Lenten journey walking with Jesus to the Cross and beyond. We make ourselves promises of how we are going to live this Lent differently than other years. Our intentions are good but we fail so often. I know that I am the same way and then I beat myself up for not being a little more faithful.

As we are going through the Sundays of Lent, we approach the Holiest week of the church year—Holy Week. We start out on Palm/Passion Sunday, March 29th, where we look at Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem. We also look at His Passion—His death on the cross. On Wednesday, April 1st, we will again do the Stations of the Cross. This is an old tradition dating back to the 1300's, where Christians would go to Jerusalem to walk the Via Dolorosa—the Way of Suffering. The church began the practice of Stations, so all of us can walk with Jesus on the Via Dolorosa to the cross. We pause at certain spots to remember an event happening.

Maundy Thursday, April 2nd, remembers Jesus' last meal with His disciples. During the meal in the upper room, Jesus washed His disciples' feet and gave them a new commandment: "Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another" The word "Maundy" comes from a Latin word meaning "command". After worship service we begin the stripping of the altar. This is an ancient Christian rite, where all linens and candles are removed from the sanctuary. This symbolizes the abandonment of Jesus by his disciples, His stripping by the soldiers, and the suspension of the Eucharist until Easter.

Good Friday, April 3rd, also known as Holy Friday or Great Friday, is a solemn holy day remembering the crucifixion of Jesus and His death at Calvary. We have the Tenebrae Service, service of the shadows, which we center on mourning, repentance, and meditating on Christ's sacrifice. We end in darkness which symbolizes Jesus' death.

When Jesus was in the Garden of Gethsemane praying for strength for what He had to endure. As He prayed the disciples slept. Jesus came to them: "Are you asleep? Could you not keep awake one hour?"

So He says to us "Can you not be with me one hour?"

In His Hands,

Pastor Gary

President's Corner

We are all looking forward to Spring after such a cold and snowy winter. The first sign of Spring we are always watching for is the Robin, aka the "Robin Redbreast". The legend of the Robin Redbreast, which I just learned myself, is perfectly fitting for the Lenten Season. The story says that this little brown bird was moved to pity upon seeing Jesus's suffering on Good Friday. According to legend the bird flew close and gently pulled out a thorn lodged in the Lord's head that was causing him great pain. As the bird struggled to remove the thorn, a drop of Jesus' blood fell onto the bird's chest. When the Robin returned to its nest, it noticed the blood and flew to a pond to try to wash it off. The blood would not wash away - in fact the drop seemed to grow bigger and brighter. Over the centuries, people have continued to share this story about how the Robin got its red breast. Lent is normally associated with a time of fasting, self sacrifice and giving up something we like for the 40 days. However, that little brown bird can teach us a better lesson for Lent. He saw the Lord in need and went to help. During Lent we should look to others in need and help them. Lent should be a season to spend some quiet time praying with God and to be selfless by helping others and bringing them to Christ; not of selfishly thinking of our own guilty pleasures or vices that we could give up for just a short time, just to return to them after Easter. Romans 1:11-12: For I long to see you so that I may share with you some spiritual gift that you may be strengthened or rather so that we may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith.

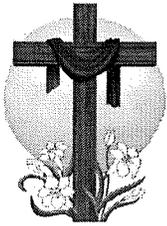
Yours in Christ,

Mark Weaver

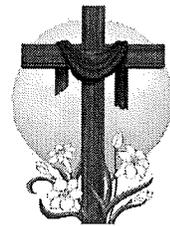
AN IRISH BLESSING



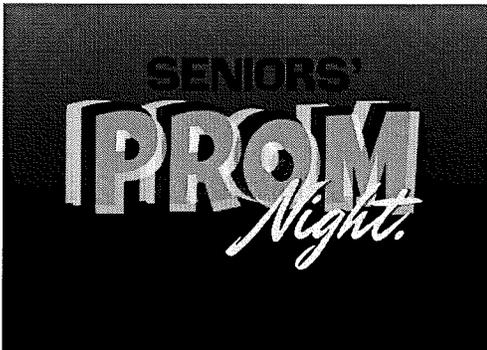
May the road rise to meet you. May the wind be always at your back. May the sun shine warm upon your face, the rains fall soft upon your fields, and, until we meet again, may God hold you in the palm of His hand.



Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Lent/ Holy Week Schedule



- April 1** Stations of the Cross
7:00 pm
- April 2** Maundy Thursday
11:00 am Holy Communion
7:00 pm Holy Communion & Stripping of the Altar
- April 3** Good Friday
7:00 pm Tenebrae
- April 5** Resurrection of our Lord
6:30 am Dawn Service/ Holy Communion
9:00 am Festival Service/ Holy Communion



MARK THE CALENDAR FOR JUNE 13TH FOR THE 3RD ANNUAL SENIORS' PROM.

THE THEME THIS YEAR IS "TALE AS OLD AS TIME."

WE WOULD LIKE IF OUR SENIORS WOULD SHARE THEIR STORY OF HOW THEY MET THEIR SIGNIFICANT OTHER AND INCLUDE A PICTURE. THEY MAY SUBMIT THEM TO NICOLE OR BRYANNA BOGDEN.

Please remember that if you unfortunately end up in the hospital to let them know that you are a member of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church. Our code # is 232. This way the office and Pastor will know.



A Movie Night is scheduled for Saturday, March 21st. The feature 'Tyler Perry's-The Passion' starts at 7pm. Snacks are always on hand. It's a great evening of fellowship. Please join us and it's free!



PASTORAL ACTS



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

One of the steps in growing in the church is receiving your First Holy Communion. First Holy Communion instruction is for anyone second grade or older.

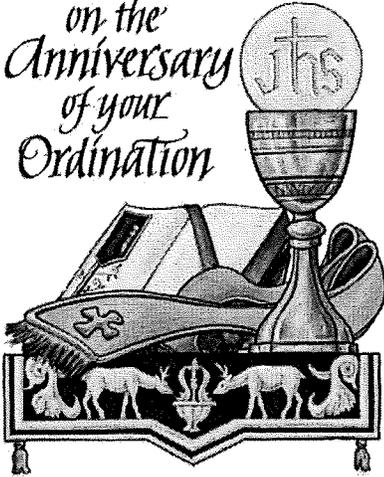
This year the classes will take place on March 17th at 7 pm. and March 24th also at 7pm. It will be held in the 3rd/4th grade classroom. The class will last approximately one hour and one parent must attend with the child.

First Holy Communion will be celebrated on Palm Sunday, March 29th, during the 9 am service. This year we welcome Vera Dorn, Leighla Fatzinger and Lillian Falko.

Our Annual Congregational Meeting will be held after Sunday Service on March 22, 2026. Please plan to join us. Bring a covered dish and enjoy the news and fellowship.



BLESSINGS on the Anniversary of your Ordination



The members of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church would like to congratulate Pastor Gary Walbert on his 45th Ordination Anniversary. For four and a half decades he has faithfully preached the Word, offered a steady hand in times of sorrow or trouble and answered "Yes" to God's call all those years ago. Pastor graduated from The Lutheran Theological Seminary in Philadelphia in 1980 and was ordained at his home church of Jordan Lutheran Church in Orefield (see picture above) in 1981.

Jeremiah 3:15 "And I will give you shepherds after my own heart, who will lead with knowledge and understanding"

Congratulations Pastor! Many blessings to you.



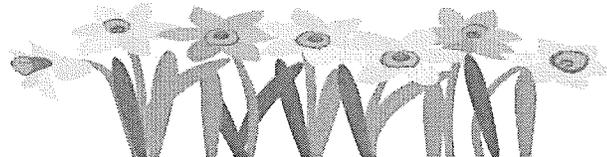
Brandon Koch	03/05
Christina Weaver	03/05
Lorie Filipovits	03/08
Blair Hower	03/08
Catherine Miller	03/08
Emma Rogers	03/09
Bradley Newhard	03/12
Stephanie Schwarz	03/12
Stephanie Rogers	03/15
Eric Borger	03/16
Kylee Pavlick-Holland	03/16
Thomas Kramer	03/17
Brian Dungan	03/18
Donna Yelles	03/18
Sally Sherman	03/21
Joan Webb	03/21
Gloria Jones	03/22
Donna Williams	03/24
Peggy Lawlor	03/25
Edwin Marshall	03/25
Emily Ann Garcia	03/25
Chris Holub	03/29
Joseph Fehr	03/31
Michael Rogers	03/31



Kevin & Judy Readinger (41) 03/08
Colin & Louise Saylor (57) 03/08



What A Winter!!
Spring begins on March 20th.
Hang in there as warmer days
are coming.



Social Ministry

Food Bank Sunday— Every 2nd Sunday of each month, please bring a canned good to Sunday service to donate to the Northampton Area Food Bank.

We collected 142 items for February. Despite the weather our collection was pretty amazing. Lets keep it going for March.

In Touch— Every first Sunday of each month, one of the great ministries we have at Good Shepherd is our In Touch. It is a very important way we can tell our homebound members that we really care and are thinking of them.

March Worship Assistant List



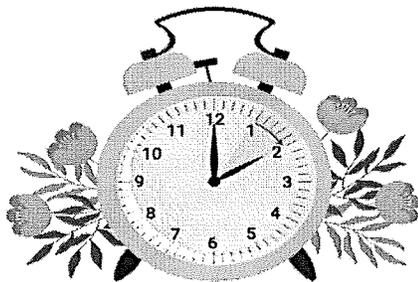
Date	Worship Assistant	Lector	Pouring Chalice	Acolytes
3/1	Bill Gebhardt	Mark Weaver	LeAnne Krill	Ben Bogden
3/8	Manuela Tufano	Nicole Bogden	Gail Loch	Jessica Snyder
3/15	Bill Gebhardt	Bill Gebhardt	Mark Weaver	Mark Weaver
3/22	Ben Bogden	Ben Bogden	LeAnne Krill	Jessica Snyder
3/29	Mark Weaver	Manuela Tufano	Gail Loch	Ben Bogden

	Ushers
3/1	Dave & Jane Laudenslager, Doug Yelles, Kerry Ruch
3/8	Dean & Roseann Yelles, Mary Dennis, Mark Weaver
3/15	Doug Yelles, Kerry Ruch Dean & Roseann Yelles
3/22	Mary Dennis, Mark Weaver, Dave & Jane Laudenslager
3/29	Dave & Jane Laudenslager, Dean & Roseann Yelles

If you cannot keep your scheduled time, please arrange for someone to fill in.

2026 Financial breakdown for March
 Amount needed weekly to meet budget = \$ 3,334.00

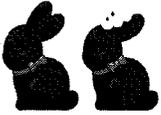
Date	Weekly offering	Memorial	Building repair
1/4	\$3231.50	\$225.00	\$185.00
1/11	\$2384.50		\$80.00
1/18	SNOW DAY		
1/25	SNOW DAY		



SPRING FORWARD
 SET YOUR CLOCKS AHEAD AN HOUR

DON'T FORGET !

Daylight Savings time begins at 2am on Sunday, March 8th. Turn your clocks ahead on Saturday night so you won't show up too early for church.



Homemade Easter Candy \$4.00 1/4 lb and \$8.00 1/2 lb

Submitted by	
Phone	

Item	amount	¼ or ½		Total due
		Circle one		
Milk chocolate peanut butter eggs		¼	½	
Dark chocolate peanut butter eggs		¼	½	
Milk chocolate coconut eggs		¼	½	
Dark chocolate coconut eggs		¼	½	
Milk chocolate pretzels		¼	½	
Dark chocolate pretzels		¼	½	
Milk chocolate nonpareils		¼	½	
Dark chocolate nonpareils		¼	½	
Milk chocolate peanut clusters		¼	½	
Dark chocolate peanuts clusters		¼	½	

Total _____

***Please make check payable to Good Shepherd Lutheran church**

Good Shepherd Lutheran church fundraising committee is making homemade Easter candy, presale only.

Please submit order and payment from Sunday, March 15th.

Pick up will be Sunday, March 29th, after Palm Sunday service 10:15 am-12:00 noon.



Scout Sunday happened on February 1st. The Scouts and Cubs from Troop 40, which are part of the Good Shepherd family helped during service by handing out bulletins and also helped with the readings. It was so nice to have them join us.





March 2026



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 In Touch Sunday Worship 9am	2 Worship & Music 7pm	3 Christian Ed. 7pm Total Lunar Eclipse "Blood Moon"	4 Council Reports Due	5 Bells & Choir 6:30 & 7:30	6	7
8 Worship 9am DAYLIGHT SAVINGS BEGINS— TURN YOUR CLOCKS AHEAD 1 HOUR! Food Bank Sunday	9 Council Meeting 6:30pm	10	11	12 Bells & Choir 6:30 & 7:30	13	14
15 Worship 9am Soup Sale –Week 1 Club 139 at 2pm Easter Candy Orders Due	16	17 St. Patrick's Day 1st Holy Communion Class 7pm	18 NEWSLETTER ARTICLES	19 Bells & Choir 6:30 & 7:30	20 FIRST DAY OF SPRING!!!	21 Movie Night "Tyler Perry's The Passion" 7pm
22 Soup Sale –Week 2 CONGREGATIONAL MEETING & COVERED DISH After 9am worship	23	24 1st Holy Communion Class 7pm	25	26 Bells & Choir 6:30 & 7:30	27	28
29 PALM SUNDAY/ PASSION SUNDAY 1st Holy Communion Worship 9am Candy order pick up	30	31				



Good Shepherd Annual Easter Egg Hunt

WHEN: SATURDAY, APRIL 4TH

TIME: 11:00AM

THIS IS A RAIN OR SHINE EVENT AND FOR ALL CHILDREN UP TO 6TH GRADE.

NOTE: THE EGG HUNT COMMITTEE IS ACCEPTING DONATIONS OF INDIVIDUAL CHOCOLATE CANDIES TO FILL THE PLASTIC EGGS. DONATIONS MAY BE PLACED IN THE CONTAINER MARKED "EGG HUNT" IN THE NARTHEX.

Easter Flowers

Orders due Sunday, March 10, 2026.

Name _____ Phone _____

Pansies (asst colors) \$3.25

Dwarf Iris (purple) \$3.25

Mini Daffodils (yellow) \$6.25

Triple Hyacinths (triples) \$7.25
Available colors: (a) pink (b) blue

5 bulb Tulips \$7.25
Available colors: (a) yellow (b) pink (c) white

Lilies 5 + blooms \$10.00



FLOWERS	COST	COLOR	QUANTITY	TOTAL \$
Pansies	\$3.25 ea	assorted		
Dwarf Iris	\$3.25 ea	purple		
Daffodils	\$6.25 ea	yellow		
Hyacinths	\$7.25 ea			
Tulips	\$7.25 ea			
Lilies	\$10.00 ea	white		

SPONSORSHIP INFORMATION:

IN HONOR OF:

OR

IN MEMORY OF:

Sponsored by: _____

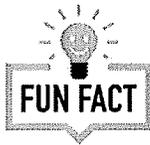
****Please make checks payable to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church.
Please give form & payment to Altar Guild or office.
Sponsors may take their flowers after either service on Easter morning.**

Just kidding!

Maggie never went to church. She always promised to go but never did. Pastor Sullivan was astounded when she suddenly showed up for Sunday service. Thereafter Maggie was there every Sunday. Three months later the pastor asked her, "What happened to you? You always dodged church and now it looks like you can't get enough?" Maggie replied, "It's this new car of mine, they told me the warranty will lapse if I miss even one service!"

Girl Scout Troop 8133

joined us on February 15th to dazzle us with their selection of cookies. It was great for the congregation to meet some of the troop and I understand that the sales were steady. Thank you to the troop and leaders for joining us.



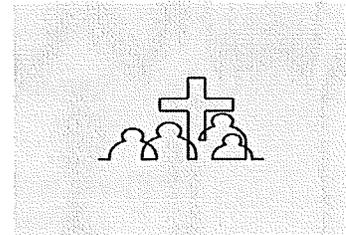
March, named after the Roman god of war Mars, was originally the first month of the year in the Roman calendar. Known for bringing spring to the Northern Hemisphere, this unpredictable "stormy month" features the Ides of March (March 15), Pi Day (3/14), Daylight Saving Time, and brings the arrival of daffodils and waking animals.



Tina Miller would like to thank everyone for all of the well wishes and prayers during her recovery from her recent surgery. She is truly grateful for her Good Shepherd family.



GSLC is on the lookout for help to sew school bags for the fall. The bags are given to the ELCA to distribute to children in need of school supplies. The sewing is not detailed...so don't be afraid! For more information please contact Barb Wiemann at 610-262-6977.



Homemade Soup Sale



Good Shepherd Annual Soup Sale

It's that time of year for our Souper Duper Soup Sale. This year there is **no need to pre-order**. The dates are set and the choices of soup have been picked. We sure hope you are hungry! Soup will be **\$7.00 a pint**.

The soup choices are as follows:

Sunday, March 15

Blue Cheese & Ham
Chicken Corn
Chili

Sunday, March 22

Broccoli Cheese
Potato
Pumpkin Chili

Soup will be available after 9am worship.
Any questions contact LeAnne Krill at
leannemkrill@gmail.com

Something New!

Good Shepherd will be holding a Drive Thru Chicken Dinner on Saturday, April 25th from 4-6pm.

Each dinner will include a 1/2 roasted chicken, baked potato, coleslaw, roll with butter and dessert of your choosing: white cake, chocolate cake, molasses cake or brownie. The cost will be \$15.00 per dinner.

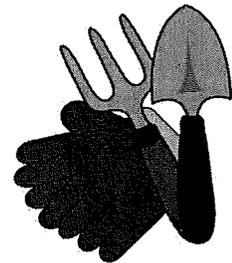
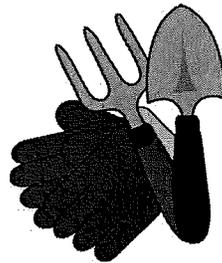
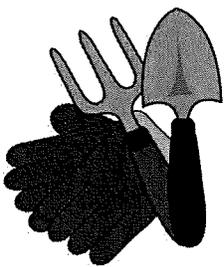
Tickets may be purchased from now until April 5th. They will be available after worship each Sunday or you may contact LeAnne Krill at 610-262-0293.

Tell your friends, family and neighbors. Mark this on your calendar as a night of No Cooking.





It was a bitterly cold night on February 7th but 30 brave souls knew that the evening would make them feel warm inside due to the fellowship. Our annual Mardi Gras/Talent Show did not disappoint. There was laughter, music, singing and even a little education thrown in. Overall it was worth bundling up and sharing in the good time.



March is a transitional month focused on spring cleanup, soil preparation, and starting seeds. Key tasks include pruning dormant trees/shrubs, applying mulch to suppress weeds, and sowing cool-weather crops like peas and lettuce. It is essential to avoid working wet, heavy soil and to prepare tools for the growing season ahead.