

The Shepherd's Staff

March 2025

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Jesus,

Lent is here again. I am not going to ask you the normal question: What are you giving up for Lent? That is not important to me. What are you going to add to your life? How will Lent help you grow closer to Jesus? That is the most important part of Lent. It is what God wants of us during this Holy Season. He wants us to walk closely with Him.

On Ash Wednesday, we have an opportunity for a sincere confession, only if we truly open our hearts to confess our sins. We receive ashes as a sign of repentance for our sins. Ashes were used to make soap. We use soap to cleanse ourselves from dirt. Sins are dirty.

We are to walk dusty, which means we are forgiven because we need to be cleaned daily. It is this dust we call life that shapes and forms us into what we truly are, resurrection people. This time of year, we realize how far we have strayed from Jesus.

Remember that in the brokenness we are healed. While our Lenten journey is long and tiresome, resurrection promises are greater. In our dusty walk, we are promised a new life.

Lent is a time we look forward to the greatest day in human history—Easter.

*In His Hands,
Pastor Gary*



March 1
Mardi Gras Party
5pm

March 5
ASH WEDNESDAY
Services
11am & 7pm

March 8
Pierogi Pick-up
12-4 pm

March 9
Soup Sale orders due
Daylight Savings
Begins
Contemporary
Service 8am
Food Bank Sunday

March 10
Council Meeting
6:30pm

March 12
Mid week service
11am & 7pm

March 16
1st Soup pickup
Candy sales begin

March 17
Dine & Donate
Red Robin 5-9pm

March 19
Mid Week Service
11am & 7pm

March 22
Gift Card Bingo

March 23
2nd Soup pickup

March 30
3rd Soup pickup
Congregational
Meeting

President's Corner

Jesus said: "Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

It is easy to feel "heavy laden" as we enter the season of Lent. February has been difficult for us all, with several snow and ice events that have disrupted our lives, burdened our finances with snow removal costs, and kept us from each other and prevented our church fellowship. It has even spoiled our chances at a little fun, postponing our karaoke night and preventing our Grounds of Grace service and normal group meetings at church. Add the concerns our general world is facing right now, and your own personal concerns to the mix, and we do indeed have heavy burdens to bear.

But Jesus knew that, didn't He? Even knowing all that would eventually befall him, he still invited us to come to him. He asked us to bring Him our burdens, and He would help to bear the load. And it was a mighty load to lift. With all of our human faults and failures, Jesus always gently reminds us that as we struggle down the road, He is literally helping us with our daily tasks, from ice chopping, to work loads, to struggles to keep our families safe, and all the way to our final rest. We truly have an awesome God!

As the Lenten season begins, please pay attention to all the things happening at Good Shepherd. Our annual Congregational Meeting is coming March 30th. Please join us for that. Lenten mid-week services will be every Wednesday at 11am & 7pm during Lent. Our Mardi Gras night will be a great time for fun and fellowship. And the Choirs and Grounds of Grace will be working on special music for our worship services. I know some delicious soups are coming for our annual fundraising activities, and more is planned along that line to help us in the months ahead. Also, please consider a little extra contribution for our snow removal costs this season. That extra "burden" is piling up. I am sure we all look forward to longer days, and warmer weather!

Blessings to All!

Chris



Mardi Gras is back and so is Scott Henninger. Lots of fun and laughs happened at last years event and this one looks to be the same good time. Join us on Saturday, March 2nd at 5pm.

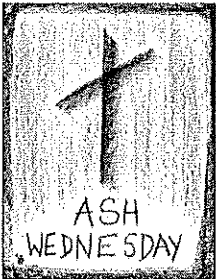


Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

Lent/ Holy Week Schedule

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>March 5 Ash Wednesday
11:00 am & 7:00 pm</p> <p>March 12 Mid week Service
11:00 am & 7:00 pm</p> <p>March 19 Mid week Service
11:00 am & 7:00 pm</p> <p>March 26 Mid week Service
11:00 am & 7:00 pm</p> <p>April 2 Mid week Service
11:00 am & 7:00 pm</p> <p>April 9 Mid week Service
11:00 am & 7:00 pm</p> | <p>April 13 Contemporary Service 8:00am
Palm Sunday/First Holy Communion
Distribution of Palms
9:00 am service</p> <p>April 16 Stations of the Cross
7:00 pm</p> <p>April 17 Maundy Thursday
11:00 am Holy Communion
7:00 pm Holy Communion & Stripping of the Altar</p> <p>April 18 Good Friday
7:00 pm Tenebrae</p> <p>April 20 Resurrection of our Lord
6:30 am Dawn Service/ Holy Communion
9:00 am Festival Service/ Holy Communion</p> |
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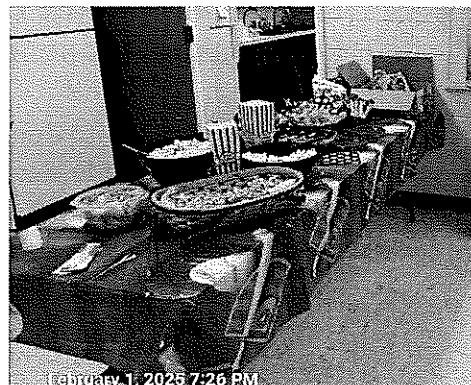
Mid Week Lenten Services



This year as we gather on a Wednesday we will be looking at the Ten Commandments and how do they relate to us in 2025. We will look at 2 commandments each week. You will receive a copy of the small Catechism so you can look at each commandment ahead of time. We will meet for a time of prayer and learning at 11am and 7pm each Wednesday during Lent. Come and join us and your fellow believers.

Movie Night at Good Shepherd

Our movie night on February 1st had a good showing of people, even with the threat of bad weather. The theme for the evening was baseball. The feature was "The Hill". Everyone grabbed their snacks and settled in (some even brought their own comfy chairs). Everyone left with a feeling of inspiration and were happy for the night out. Keep your eye out for the next movie night and join in on the fun.





PASTORAL ACTS



Thank you for 2 great months of donations to the Northampton Food Bank. We are making a difference in people's lives. Lent begins on March 5th. Let's make our Lenten devotion this year to bring in a few items for the Food Bank weekly. Just imagine what a difference it will make in the lives of people. God will smile at you and say, "Thank you for helping my children".

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 April 1st at 7 pm. and April 8th 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 24th, during the 9 am service. If you are interested in having your child participate or have any questions, please call the church office or Pastor Gary.

Stations of the Cross

Experiencing the Stations of the Cross is a sacred service that remembers Jesus' journey on Good Friday, from Pontius Pilate's condemnation to His being placed in the tomb. Each station or stop depicts a moment in Jesus' journey to the cross and grave. We will experience that sacred journey, Jesus took because of our sins. The purpose is to help us make a spiritual pilgrimage by contemplating the Passion of Christ. We experience what journey took because of our sins. He did it for you and me. Please come on April 16th at 7pm to experience this sacred journey.



Good Shepherd Annual Easter Egg Hunt


Saturday, April 19 at 11:00 AM

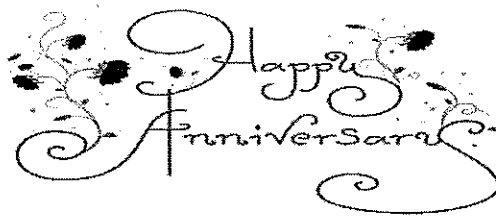
Rain or shine in the Fellowship Hall for children of all ages. Let's make this one "egg-stra" special.

*If you would like to donate individually wrapped chocolate candies please place in container labeled **Egg Hunt** by March 30. This allows us some time to fill the eggs.

Thank you so much. Egg Hunt Committee



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	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 Schweitzer	03/25
Chris Holub	03/29
Joseph Fehr	03/31
Michael Rogers	03/31



Kevin & Judy Readinger 03/08
 Colin & Louise Saylor 03/08

Sunday School

Sunday School is every Sunday at 10:15 a.m. All ages are encouraged to attend. So after the church service, please make your way down the hallway and find the classroom that is right for you. We hope to see everyone.



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 members in need that we really care!

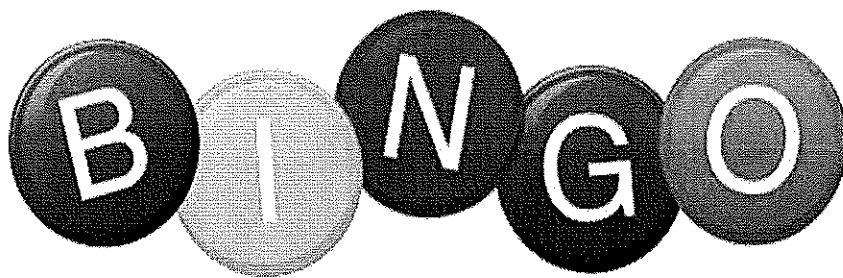
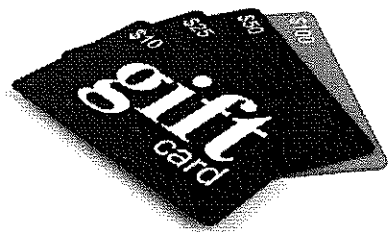


Food Bank Sunday— Every 2nd Sunday of each month, please bring a canned good to Sunday service to donate to the Northampton Area Food Bank. We collected 93 items for February. The weather hurt our collection but we can make a comeback for March!!



Our Annual Congregational Meeting will be held after Sunday Service on **March 30, 2025**. Please plan to join us. Bring a covered dish and enjoy the news and fellowship.





Good Shepherd Lutheran Church presents Gift Card BINGO!
Some tickets will be available at the door.
Get yours tickets early!!

When: Saturday, March 22, 2025

Where: 1335 Old Carriage Rd, Northampton



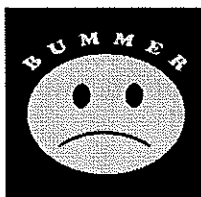
Doors & Kitchen open at 12:30pm. Games begin at 2pm.

20 Gift Card Games & 5 Special Games plus 1 Door Prize Ticket.
Also 50/50, side raffles and our famous bake sale!

Tickets are \$25.00 each. Only 150 tickets available. Stop by the church office M-F 9am-2pm or call 610-262-9517. See you there!!!

- games operated under license issued to GSLC, managed by Ed Filipovits.

SAVE THE DATE! Our upcoming Bingo events are scheduled for September 27th and November 15th.



Karaoke Night was cancelled on 2/15 due to the weather . But don't be sad as we have rescheduled it for April 26th at 6:30pm.

Pierogi Pick up will be on
Saturday, March 8th. between 12 noon-4pm.
Pick up will happen in the narthex.



Our newsletter delivery system is changing. If you would like to receive your newsletter by email please let the office know. You can email your name and email information to goodshepherdlutheran@rcn.com. Thank you to everyone that responded so far. Of course the best way to get your copy is to attend worship at 9am. We would love to see you.

March Worship Assistant List

Date	Worship Assistant	Lector	Pouring Chalice	Acolytes
3/2	Jen Gaugler	Lorie Filipovits	Donna Pavlick	TBD
3/9	TBD	Bill Gebhardt	Linda Siekonic	TBD
3/16	TBD	Jen Burrell	Linda Siekonic	Will Burrell
3/23	Jen Gaugler	Linda Siekonic	Diane Hausman	TBD
3/30	TBD	TBD	Gail Loch	TBD

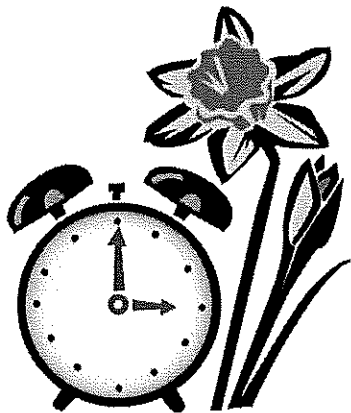
If you cannot keep your scheduled time, please arrange for someone to fill in.

Ushers	
3/2	Ed Filipovits, Kerry Ruch, Doug Yelles, TBD
3/9	TBD
3/16	Ed Filipovits, Jen Gaugler, TBD
3/23	Dave Laudenslager, Jane Laudenslager, Dean Yelles, Roseann Yelles
3/30	Ed Filipovits, Jen Gaugler,



2024 Financial breakdown for March
 Amount needed weekly to meet budget = \$ 3,180.00
 Amount needed weekly to pay bills = \$2,810.00

Date	Weekly offering	Memorial	Building repair
1/5	\$3174.00		\$215.00
1/12	\$1589.00		\$85.00
1/19	\$938.00		
1/26	\$2956.50		\$240.00



Time to Spring Ahead



DON'T FORGET !

Daylight Savings time begins at 2am on Sunday, March 9th. Turn your clocks ahead on Saturday night so you won't show up too early for church.



Winter weather alert

Be sure to check WFMZ or Facebook for up to minute cancellations for Sunday service.



Homemade Easter Candy \$5.00 1/4 lb and \$10.00 1/2 lb

Submitted by _____

Phone _____

Item	Quantity	1/4 lb or 1/2 lb Circle one		Total due
Milk chocolate peanut butter eggs		1/4	1/2	
Dark chocolate peanut butter eggs		1/4	1/2	
Milk chocolate coconut eggs		1/4	1/2	
Dark chocolate coconut eggs		1/4	1/2	
Milk chocolate pretzels		1/4	1/2	
Dark chocolate pretzels		1/4	1/2	
Milk chocolate raisin clusters		1/4	1/2	
Dark chocolate raisin clusters		1/4	1/2	
Milk chocolate nonpareils (pastel colors)		1/4	1/2	
Dark chocolate nonpareils (pastels colors)		1/4	1/2	
Milk chocolate peanut clusters		1/4	1/2	
Dark chocolate peanuts clusters		1/4	1/2	

Good Shepherd Lutheran church fundraising committee is




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

Please submit order and payment from Sunday, March 16th thru Sunday, April 6th.

Pick up will be Sunday, April 13th, after Palm Sunday service 10:15 am-12:00 pm.

** Please make check payable to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church.*

March 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Mardi Gras Fellowship Hall 5pm
2 Worship 9am In Touch	3 Worship & Music 7:00 pm Girl Scouts 7:00 pm	4 Christian Ed 7:00pm Boy Scouts 7:00 pm	5 Ash Wednesday Services 11am & 7pm	6 Bell Choir Practice 6:30 pm Choir practice 7:30 pm Council Reports Due	7	8 Pierogi pick up at church. 12-4pm TURN CLOCKS AHEAD!!!!
9 Contemporary Service 8am Worship 9am Food Bank SOUP SALE ORDERS DUE Daylight Saving Begins	10 Council Mtg 6:30 pm Girl Scouts 7:00 pm	11 Boy Scouts 7:00 pm	12 Mid Week Lent Service 11 am & 7 pm	13 Bell Choir Practice 6:30 pm Choir practice 7:30 pm NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE	14	15
16 Worship 9am SOUP PICK UP CLUB 139 2-4PM	17 EASTER CANDY ORDERS DUE DINE & DONATE AT RED ROBIN 5-9PM Girl Scouts 7:00 pm	18 Boy Scouts 7:00 pm	19 Mid Week Lent Service 11 am & 7 pm	20 Bell Choir Practice 6:30 pm Choir Practice 7:30 pm 1ST DAY OF SPRING	21 Bingo set-up	22 GIFT CARD BINGO Doors open at 12:30 Games begin at 2pm.
23 Worship 9am SOUP PICK UP	24 Girl Scouts 7:00 pm	25 Boy Scouts 7:00 pm	26 Mid Week Lent Service 11 am & 7 pm	27 VINCE'S FOOD TRUCK FUNDRAISER AT ACE HARDWARE 11-6pm Bell Choir Practice 6:30 pm Choir practice 7:30 pm	28	29
30 Worship 9am SOUP PICK UP Annual Congregational Meeting	31					



The gift bags for our Homebound Members are in the narthex and ready for delivery. Please pick up a bag and deliver it to our shut ins within a week or two. A big thank you from Social Ministry. Please direct any questions to Judy Fehr: 610-392-7127



Easter Flower

Orders due Sunday, March 16, 2025.



Name _____ Phone _____

- Pansies (asst colors) \$3.25**
- Dwarf Iris (purple) \$3.25**
- Mini Daffodils (yellow) \$6.25**
- Triple Hyacinths \$7.00**
Available colors: (a) pink (b) blue
- 5 bulb Tulips \$7.00**
Available colors: (a) yellow (b) pink (c) purple
- Mums \$10.00**
Available colors: (a) yellow (b) pink (c) purple
- Lilies 5 + blooms \$10.00**

FLOWERS	COST	COLOR	QUANTITY	TOTAL \$
Pansies	\$3.25 ea			
Iris	\$3.25 ea	purple		
Daffodils	\$6.25 ea	yellow		
Hyacinths	\$7.00 ea			
Tulips	\$7.00 ea			
Mums	\$10.00 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.**



FOOD TRUCKS | CONCESSIONS | CATERING

GSLC is partnering with Vince's Famous Cheesteaks On Thursday , March 27th from 11am-6pm, Vince's Food Truck will be at the ACE Hardware on Rt. 329 in Northampton. Stop by and pick up the famous steak sandwiches that are known all over the Valley. A portion of the proceeds from the day come directly to Good Shepherd. Spread the word and we hope to see you there.

Dine & Donate Event

Join us at Red Robin (located at 1875 Airport Rd., near the BJ's) on March's 17th from 5-9pm for a special Dine & Donate Night. Celebrate St Patrick's Day with an amazing burger and their bottomless steak fries. Oh...don't forget the milkshake too. This is our 1st time partnering with Red Robin. Let's make it a success.

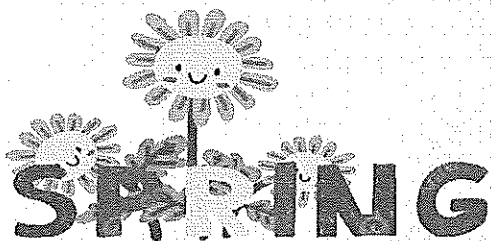


Just kidding!

SAVE THE DATE JUNE 14, 2025

Dinner and dancing while celebrating our Senior members. Music from the 1920's to now. Doors open 3:30 pm.

Dear Heavenly Father,
So far, today, I've done all right. I haven't gossiped or lost my temper. I haven't been greedy, grumpy, nasty, or self centered. I'm really happy about that so far. But in a few minutes I'm going to be getting out of bed and then I'm going to need a lot of help. Thank you! Amen



"Where flowers bloom so does hope"

Oh happy day... Spring beings on March 20th.

Annual Soup Sale Event.

The Fund Raising Committee will take soup orders until March 9th due to the weather and cancellations of church services we have extended the orders and extra week.

All Orders our due now by: March 9, 2025

All soups are \$6.00 a pint, if you would like any soup please make sure to order what you would like for any or all the weeks, please fill out the form below.

You can return the order form to LeAnne Krill along with payment, make checks out to: **Good Shepherd Lutheran Church.** Or email her at leannemkrill@gmail.com subject: Soup Sale with your order, Thank You!

All orders will be ready for pick up on date marked from 10:15 AM – 11:00 AM

Please return this part with your order

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Pick up Date	Soups	Price/ pint	Qty.	Total
March 16	Stromboli	\$6.00		
	Cheese- Broccoli	\$6.00		
March 23	Beef Vegetable	\$6.00		
	Ham and Bean	\$6.00		
March 30	Italian Wedding	\$6.00		
	Potato	\$6.00		

