

The Shepherd's Staff

November 2026

From the Pastor:

Brothers and Sister in Jesus,

The word for November is remembering. We remember when we celebrate All Saint's Day. We recall how people touched our lives and made a difference in them. We believe when they got to heaven and there was a great family reunion they are part of "great cloud of witnesses" (Hebrews 12:1). They will greet us when we too take our journey Home.

On November 26th a day for watching football and eating ourselves silly and hopefully being with family. We should take time to remember all the blessings God has given us this past year. I am sure there are many, even if we had a difficult year. We always have much to be thankful for every day.

On November 29th we begin the season of Advent. We remember Jesus came as a baby and was born in a manger. The reason He came was to show us how much God cares about us and to forgive our sins and give us an opportunity for eternal life. We also remember that Jesus promises us that one day He will come again to take us to live with Him forever. I know we will remember all we need to do to get ready for Christmas. Yes, it is important to us.

Please do not forget the real reason for the season of Advent.

Yours in Jesus,

Pastor Gary



Fun Fact



The Butterball Hotline: Every November and December, the Butterball Turkey Talk-Line answers over 100,000 turkey-cooking questions.

planning ahead…

<u>November 1</u>
All Saints Day
9am
In Touch
Daylight Savings Ends

<u>November 2</u>
Worship & Music
7pm

<u>November 3</u>
Christian Ed.
7pm

<u>November 8</u>
Veterans Day
worship 9am
Food Bank Sunday

<u>November 9</u>
Council Meeting
6:30

<u>November 15</u>
Intergenerational Sunday School after 9am worship.

<u>November 26</u>
Happy Thanksgiving
Church office is closed Thursday and Friday.

<u>November 21</u>
Northampton Boro.
Tree lighting 5:30pm

<u>December 5</u>
Movie Night 6pm
St. Nick of Bethlehem

<u>December 6</u>
Congregational Meeting
after 9am worship

<u>December 12</u>
Cookie Sale &
Christmas Bazaar
9am -1pm



Thanksgiving is Thursday, November 26th. The church office will be closed Thursday and Friday. It will be open on Monday the 30th at 9am. Enjoy your day and count your blessings.





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<u>December 12th from 9am-1pm.</u>

Things are getting in order for our Famous 32nd Annual Cookie Sale. For the 2nd year we are adding a Christmas Bazaar. We are accepting additional donations for the Bazaar. <u>Christmas items only!</u> Donations should be new or gently used. They will be accepted from Nov. 1st through Nov.30th. The items can be dropped off at the church during office hours of Mon-Fri 9-2pm or on Sunday morning.
Any questions please contact Marge at 610-262-8328.

We are also looking for bakers. So break out those cookie and holiday baked good recipes and get ready to BAKE!.
Please contact Barb Wiemann at 610-262-6977 regarding the Cookie Sale.



The date is set for the Annual Congregational Meeting. It will be happening after worship on Sunday, December 6th. This meeting is for the approval of the budget and the election of new council members. We have 3 positions that need to be filled. Please plan to stay after our 9am service. This meeting affects all of the members.

This was our 1st year participating in this event. Thank you everyone who purchase a pass. This was a great fundraiser for GSLC. Thanks to Jeanne Schweitzer and Gail Loch for being at the store on the day of the event. We raised $320.00 and you got to go shopping. It's a win for everyone.





Benjamin Bogden	11/01
Bryanna Bogden	11/01
Glenn Tyler	11/03
Susan Borger	11/06
Callia Weiner	11/08
Marge Leith	11/13
Irene Grow	11/14
Emily Fehr-VanHorn	11/20
David Andrew	11/21
Dylan Eberhardt	11/21
Elizabeth Flynn	11/22
Richard Holub	11/22
Wendy Panasik	11/23
Denise Schmall	11/23
David Stimmel	11/23
Michelle Eberhardt	11/24
Paul Kratzer	11/24
Randy Borda	11/28
Ann Moyer	11/29



The trip to the pumpkin patch at Unangst Farm on Oct. 18th was great fun. The weather could not have been better for the outdoor event. By the faces of the picture above I would say that everyone had a good time.



Ronald & Kimberly Sandt (32)	11/05
Allison & James Quartararo (12)	11/07
John& Sharon Enstrom (59)	11/11
Glenn & Suzanne Tyler (56)	11/14
Barry & Jackie Saylor (42)	11/17
Nicole & Jason Bogden (27)	11/20
Paul & Diane Kratzer (66)	11/26
Bradley & Sandra Newhard (45)	11/28
LeAnne & Gary Krill (41)	11/30



The church office will be printing up church directories for December. If your information has changed, maybe a new phone number or perhaps you no longer have a landline or maybe a new email, please let the office know.
We want to have the best contact information for each and every member. We do not share this information.



PASTORAL ACTS



The **Sharing Table** for 2026 is coming to an end. A huge thanks to everyone who helped fill the table with lovely items from their gardens as well as those who made donations. We raised a total of $659.50 as of 10/27. It was a bit of a strange growing season but we are thankful, as is the Northampton Area Food Bank.

The Blessing of the Animals happened on October 11th and the weather was just awful but that did not discourage the faithful and their pets. Pastor Gary was on hand with treats to welcome everyone that turned out.

Pictured right:
Pastor Gary and the adorable Maggie Schweitzer getting her first of many blessings.

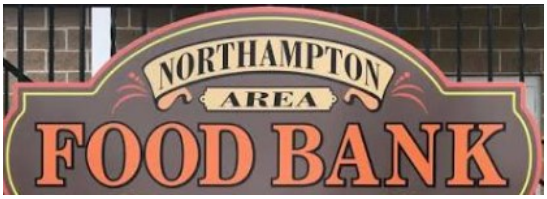




Good Shepherd is holding an Intergenerational Sunday School after worship on Sunday, November 15th.
This topic will be the Jesse Tree and the meaning of the ornaments that adorn the tree.
Christian Ed will be sponsoring coffee hour.
Please try to attend you might learn something new and we look forward to seeing you.

Celebrate National Pickle Day on November 14th. Pickles date back to roughly 2030 BC. There are so many to choose from. Pick your favorite and enjoy the day.





We collected a total of 98 items for the Northampton Area Food Bank this past month. Now that the holidays are just around the corner, so is the need for more items. Please remember when you are shopping to pick up something for the donation bin in the narthex.
Food Bank Sunday is November 8th.

2025 Financial breakdown for November

Amount needed weekly to meet budget = $ 3,180.00
Amount needed weekly to pay bills = $2,810.00



Date	Weekly offering	Memorial	Building repair
09/07/2025	$4207.55		$195.00
09/14/2025	$2057.50		$75.00
09/21/2025	$1652.50		$10.00
09/28/2025	$1546.50		-

BEGINS SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29TH



Here is something to mark on the calendar. **Christmas Eve services on December 24th will be at 4pm & 7:30 pm.** Both service will include communion and both are candlelight services.



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Give Thanks. What are you thankful for and how do you celebrate Thanksgiving? I'm sure you will gather around the Thanksgiving dinner table and say you are thankful for your family, health, finances, etc. Psalm 107:1 says: "Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; His love endures forever." Give thanks for what? All those things I just mentioned, or for everything that God provides? Too often we tend to forget the things God provides that we almost never think about. For those of us that lost family members, we need to thank God for how special they were in our lives and keep their memories alive so others will know them. We need to thank God for all those heroes who serve in the armed forces, farmers, emergency services and healthcare, who will probably be working while we enjoy our turkey and football. Have you ever thought to thank God for Martin Luther who gave us the Bible, in our own language, during the Reformation so we could develop relationship with Jesus. Personally, I give thanks regularly for all those who step out of their comfort zone to serve on Church Council, during Sunday worship and for all our volunteers for our Social Ministry, Christian Education, Music and Worship, Fundraising, Outreach, Property, Finance, etc. None of us who volunteer are perfect in what we do, but we still show up and do our best to the glory of God! Give thanks for all who work so hard in the background to make our church as special as it is and show them how thankful you are by saying so. Consider volunteering and serving others to find out how thankful you really are for others who do their best to serve you.

God's Love endures forever and our love for our neighbors, community and world is all that God asks of us. Matthew 22:39, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' I give thanks to God for all of you in my life and hope you will live a life of thankfulness, not just on Turkey Day.

Yours in Christ,
Mark Weaver

November 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 All Saint's Day Worship 9am In Touch Turn your clocks back!!	2 Worship & Music 7pm *CHRISTMAS*	3 Christian Ed 7pm *BAZAAR*	4 *DONATIONS*	5 *ACCEPTED*	6 *THRU 11/30*	7 CASH BINGO Doors open at 12noon.
8 Veterans Day Worship 9am Food Bank Sunday Baking supply give Away.	9 Council Meeting 6:30pm	10	11 Veteran's Day	12	13	14
15 Intergenerational Sunday School After 9am worship	16	17	18	19	20	21 Northampton Borough Tree Lighting 5:30pm
22	23	24	25	26 Happy Thanksgiving! Church office is closed until Monday.	27 Black Friday Happy Shopping!	28
29	30					



Ol' Fred had been a faithful Christian and was in the hospital, near death. the family called their pastor to stand with them. As the preacher stood next to the bed, Ol' Fred's condition appeared to deteriorate and he motioned frantically for something to write on. The pastor lovingly handed him a pen and a piece of paper and Ol' Fred used his last bit of energy to scribble a note, then suddenly died. The pastor though it best not to look at the note at the time, so he placed it in his jacket pocket.

At the funeral, as he was finishing the message, he realized that he was wearing the same jacket that he was wearing when Ol' Fred died. He said, "You know Ol' Fred handed me a note just before he died. I have not looked at it, but knowing Fred, I'm sure there's a word of inspiration there for all of us" He opened the note and read, "Move over! You are standing on my air tube!"



Our kitchen is always a BIG part of what we do here at Good Shepherd. Nicole Bogden, Gail Loch and LeAnne Krill worked very hard on the halupkis that were sold at the Basket Auction. By the way they SOLD OUT!

Our Annual Basket Social was yet again a success. It happened on October 16th & 17th. We had over a 118 items up for grabs. We also added a Soup Sale which did very well.
The kitchen was busy as always and the bake sale is always a hit. We grossed a total of $3232.00. It takes a lot of time and effort to make this event happen so special thanks to everyone that donated baskets and worked the day and evening of the actual event. Great job! We raised $3827.55.







We are planning ahead. Although we just finished 297 school kits we are preparing to start again. The Social Ministry Committee is accepting donations of fabric to make school backpacks. Examples of the types of fabrics that we can use are light-weight denim, canvas, twill, corduroy. flannel, cotton, and and cotton poly blends. Fabric does not have to be new - we can repurpose items such as curtain panels and tablecloths. We accept solid colors, stripes, plaids, geometric designs, flowers, and prints. If you have questions about whether your left over fabric from sewing projects or used fabric is suitable, just ask us. Contact Barb Wiemann at 610-262-6977 or blwiemann@gmail.com.



With the cold and flu season upon us all please remember that if you or a loved one happens to end up in the hospital, let them know you are a member of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church. **Our code is 232**. They will let the Chaplin know and this way Pastor Walbert can get the information. Thank you and do your best to stay healthy!



Girl Scout News







The Girl Scout Clothing Swap that happened on October 3rd in the fellowship hall and it was a success. So many donations came in and they were sorted and organized by the girls and their leaders. They were able to keep over 100 items from ending up in a landfill. All remaining items were donated to local non profits. Great job!



GSLC Cookie Sale is a BIG event.
It is happening on December 12th. We have many talented bakers and to help with the rising cost of items to make the baked goods, we were given a donation of assorted items. These items will be available on Sunday, November 8th in the Nursery Room. Any questions please contact LeAnne Krill at 610-262-0293 or ***leannemkrill@gmail.com***



Movie Night is scheduled for **Saturday December 5th at 6pm** in the
Fellowship Hall. This movie will get you in the mood for the Christmas season. Best of all it stars the areas Daniel Roebuck who is from





POINSETTIA PLANTS FOR CHRISTMAS EVE 2026

plants have 5-7 blooms in a 6 1/2 inch pot with red foil
$9.25 PER PLANT

NO. OF PLANTS:

WHITE:_____ RED:_____

YOUR NAME _____ TELEPHONE_____

SPONSORSHIP INFORMATION:

IN **HONOR** OF:

_____

_____

IN **MEMORY** OF:

_____

_____

SPONSORED BY: _____

ALL ORDERS MUST BE RECEIVED BY NOVEMBER 30

Orders may be given to Altar Guild members at church or mailed to the church.
Please print all names clearly.
Make checks payable to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church.

The plants will be placed around the Altar for our Christmas Eve services on Dec. 24.
You may take your plants after either service on Christmas Eve,
after worship on December 27, or during the
office hours (9-2 Mon.-Fri.) until Dec. 31st.
Unclaimed plants will be donated.



Christmas Ingathering 2026



The Annual Christmas Ingathering of the Northern Lehigh Valley Mission District will be held on Thursday, December 3, 2026, at Union Church in Schnecksville.
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church is responsible for the following:
2 - $30.00 Gifts for Kids Peace
$30.00 for this year's special cause of The LV Military Affairs Council (Mom's of Military program)
They collect and prepare care packages for veterans in nursing homes.
Mittens, hats and scarves for men, women, and children of all ages
50 packs of playing cards
$10 to purchase Journals for Kids Peace

The "Wish List" below outlines organizations supported by this annual ministry. The donation box, for your wish list items, will be available beginning in November in the Narthex. Please have your donations submitted by November 29th. Any monetary donations received will be used to purchase needed supplies.

The Social Ministry Committee appreciates our congregation's ongoing generosity and support. Please contact Judy Fehr, at 610-392-7127, with any questions. Thank you!

Wish List

Kids Peace – Coloring Books, Crayons, Shampoo, Shower Gel, or Chapstick.

Gracedale – Shower Gel, Shampoo/Conditioner, Socks, Coloring Books, or Crayons.

Sayre Center – Bibs, Colored Pencils, or Wash Cloths (Hand or Face).

Allentown Rescue Mission – Cereal Bars, Granola Bars, Coffee (no K-cups), Creamer.

Ripple Community Center – Flashlights, Travel Size Shampoo / Conditioner / Body Wash, Coffee, Creamer.

The YMCA Warming Station – Coffee, Travel Size Toothpaste / Deodorant, Hand Warmers.

Mom's of Military – Travel Size Shampoo / Conditioner / Lotion / Toothpaste, Toothbrush







