The Shepherd's Staff



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Jesus,

So how do we become a better church? We are very good at making people feel welcome. This is one of the first comments I hear from visitors. Why don't they come back then, that is a good question. I do not have an answer. We need to keep doing what we are doing.

We need to be a giving church. Yes, your weekly offering is important. It helps keep our church going. But there is so much more; we need to be aware of other's needs. The Food Bank is an important ministry in Northampton. As inflation keeps growing, families who struggle to make ends meet need the Food Bank to survive. Our monthly donations have dropped this year. Does it mean we are losing interest in helping? We can do better. Social Ministry is planning a Toiletry Drive soon. We need to support it as much as we can. These special drives are important because it helps people in need. By supporting various drives, it shows we are an active congregation, a caring congregation, and a loving one.

We need to be a caring congregation. I smile every Sunday when I see the interaction between members. You can see the caring and concern you have for each other. It makes me tear up when I see you helping each other. You are showing the Gospel in action, a living Gospel. Let's remember birthdays and anniversaries. A simple card can tell someone that they are cared for an have friends.

What does Jesus want from us-faithfulness to His children.

In His Hands,

Pastor Gary

"First do what is necessary. Then do what is possible. And before you know it, you are doing the impossible." – St Francis of Assisi

May 2024

<u>May 5</u> In Touch

<u>May 12</u> Mother's Day Food Bank Sunday

> <u>May 19</u> Pentecost

<u>May 26</u> Holy Trinity Memorial Day Service

<u>May 23</u> Dine& Donate Seemsville Pub

<u>May 27</u> Memorial Day

<u>June 2</u> Music Sunday Cash BINGO

<u>June 7</u> Dine & Donate Konkrete Creamery

> <u>June 8</u> Senior Prom

<u>June 16</u> Father's Day

<u>June 24</u> VBS begins

President's Corner

Dear Friends:

This past Sunday we had our annual Congregational Meeting. It was my first as Council President, so I may not have been as polished as I would have liked. But I was uplifted by our gathering in so many ways. Many thanks to everyone who shared their cooking talents. The meal was fantastic as always, and the fellowship as we ate was very important. The more we gather together, the stronger our congregation becomes.

This meeting is a chance to give committees an opportunity to highlight their accomplishments for the year, and remind us of things we need to do looking forward. We did that! It is also a chance for members to ask questions and air concerns. It is truly exciting when a meeting is generally happy and free of conflict, and we had that. But it was also a chance for me to hear from you, and I am VERY grateful for that.

As a congregation, we had an honest discussion on how to keep our Church Council at full strength and doing the best to lead our church. You told us loud and clear that we should keep the membership of Council at 12 members. It was the answer I believed was right, and I am so glad that you feel the same. It was also a joy to have our nominating committee, currently headed by Ben Bogdan, ask Mark Weaver to join Council, and have him accept the invitation in front of us all. Thank you so much Mark! He also reminded me that as many people as I thought we asked, there are still members who have not been asked yet, or who may be waiting for a future moment when it is right for them to consider joining Council. Please always approach any Council Member if you are interested. We probably have an opportunity for service for you!

We will bring recommendations to change our bylaws to allow for more flexibility in filling Council membership in the coming months. And please stop and talk to Committee members on Pentecost Sunday to check out other ways for you to help out at Good Shepherd. We plan on having displays up to look at and ask questions.

Blessings to All, Chris Holub





May 5th is MMIW Awareness Day. "Indigenous women and girls go missing at a much higher rate than any other group in the United States. Indigenous men also disappear at a higher rate than other males. There are 2 foci in this commitment. One is advocacy. Tribes, states, and the US government can and should pass legislation to coordinate work to alleviate the problem. The second focus is relational. Synod leaders can establish relationships with Tribal Nations, express solidarity, help with prevention, with search and rescue, with comforting the anxious and bereaved. Congregations can, as well."



On April 21, 2024 Charlie Ryan Bealer received the Sacrament of Baptism here at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church. Daughter of Gregory and Charose Bealer. May God bless you Charlie Ryan!





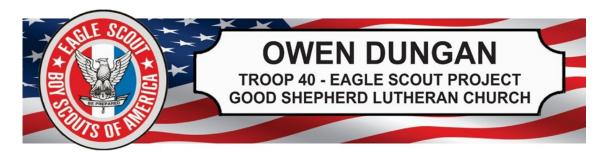




SAVE THE DATE JUNE 8, 2024

Senior Prom. June 8th. Doors open at 3:30. There will be a dinner at 4pm.Dancing and Fun to a mix of all generational music. We will crown a King and Queen. All ages are welcome. Seniors Prom is to celebrate our Senior congregation.

Theme is "A Night Under The Stars"



For my Eagle Scout Project I will be erecting a 25 foot flagpole and installing a memorial patio with a fire pit at Good Shepherd near the pavilion in the spot where the old playground used to be. This project will cost approx. \$10,000. A major portion of my fundraising will come from the sponsorship of bricks for the patio. I am selling 4" x 8" engraved bricks for \$60 and 8" x 8" engraved bricks for \$120. My goal is to sell over 200 bricks. You can have whatever you would like engraved on them. Honor a loved one, have your family name on it, give recognition to somebody, etc. You can order your brick by going to <u>www.4everbricks.com/donors/BSA40</u>. You can order online from there or you can also download an order form from that website and mail into me with payment. You can also pick up a form in the Nave of the church. If you do not want a brick but would still like to donate you can mail in a donation to Owen Dungan Eagle Project 737 2nd St Catasauqua, PA 18032. Checks can be made out to Troop 40. Follow the progress of my project at <u>https://www.facebook.com/OwenDunganEagleProject</u>

Happy Birthday...

Judy Fehr Kelly Wiland Maryann Edelman Margaret Tobias Vicky Brzozowski	5/1 5/1 5/2 5/3 5/6
Jason Bogden	5/7
Jennifer Baker	5/10
Jeff Dorn	5/11
Warren Hoffman	5/12
Nicole Layton	5/12
Kathleen Schwartz	5/18
Mary Dennis	5/21
Jane Dodson	5/21
Samuel Emery	5/21
Roseann Yelles	5/22
Lucas Miller	5/24
Lori Borda	5/26
Dolores Long	5/26
Breanne LaBarre	5/27
Robert Osiecki	5/27
John Mann	5/29
Alfred Wiemann	5/29
Renae Yelles	5/29
Randy Claroni	5/29
Kimberly Sandt	5/30

PASTORAL ACTS



and Birthdays

The Northampton Area Food Bank would like to thank the congregation of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church for the generous donations in March!



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.



Anniversaries

Louis & Stephanie Schwartz Richard & Carole Holub William & Sally Sherman Michael & Karen Hahn Jeff & Shelly Dorn

Dale & Helen Moyer

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.

thank you

Linda Walbert would like to extend a warm and gracious **thank you** for all the thoughts, prayers, cards, meals and every well wish while she was in the hospital and rehab center. Everyday is getting better and she cannot wait to see everyone very soon!

Thank you to all the wonderful volunteers that have assisted with BINGO, office coverage, cleaning and grounds keeping.

We appreciate you so much!



Date	Assisting Minister	Lector	Pouring Chalice	Acolytes	
5/5	Mark Weaver	Linda Siekonic	Linda Siekonic	Andrew LaBarre	
5/12	Chris Holub	Chris Holub	Gail Loch	Andrew LaBarre	
5/19	Bill Gebhardt	Bill Gebhardt	Donna Pavlick Barb Weimann	Jess Snyder	
5/26	Jen Gaugler	Chris Holub	Diane Hausman	Will Burrell	
	Ushers			If you cannot	
5/5	Dean & Roseann Yelles, Mike Rogers			keep your scheduled	
5/12	Jen Gaugler, Jessica Kirkpatrick, Kerry Ruch, Doug Yelles			time, please	
5/19	Dean & Roseann Yelles, Jen Gaugler			arrange for someone to	
5/26	Jessica Kirkpatrick, Kerry Ruch, Doug Yelles			fill in.	

Our first Bingo of 2024 was a roaring success! We handed out over \$1000 in donated gift cards for prizes and hosted nearly 115 players in our Fellowship Hall. With your help, your time, and your baking expertise, we were able to raise over \$4000 between the game and kitchen.

2024 Financial breakdown for May Amount needed weekly to meet budget = \$3,101.00 Amount needed weekly to pay bills =\$2,803.00



Date	Weekly offering	Memorial	Building repair
3/3	3595.00		205.00
3/10	1921.00		20.00
3/17	2455.00		1000.00
3/24	3935.00		
3/31	5979.00		65.00

Treasurer Report – March 2024

In the month of March, we had income of \$2,800 that reduced our total loss for the year to \$1,000. Some notable activity for the month is the following: Some notable income activity includes:

Offerings of \$13,300

Fundraising of \$1,000

Some notable expense activity includes:

\$350 for memorial purchases

\$340 for Organ Maintenance

\$200 for Advertising for Mardi Gras and Bingo

At the end of March, we had a balance of \$4,300 in our checking account. Our savings account has a balance of \$40,000. There is about \$1,000 in outstanding checks that will clear in the upcoming days. Total assets, all bank accounts and CDs, were \$214,000 at March 31, 2024

May 2024							
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
			1	2 Bell Choir Practice 6:30 pm Choir practice 7:30 pm	3	4	
5 Worship 9:00 am In Touch MMIW Awareness Day Fundraising Mtg 10:30	6 Worship & Music 7:00pm Girl Scouts 7:00 pm	7 Christian Ed 7:00 pm Boy Scouts 7:00 pm	8	9 Bell Choir Practice 6:30 pm Choir practice 7:30 pm	10 Council Report	11 s Due	
12 Worship 9:00 am Food Bank Sunday school	13 Council Mtg 6:30 pm Girl Scouts 7:00 pm	14 Boy Scouts 7:00 pm	15	16 Bell Choir Practice 6:30 pm Choir practice 7:30 pm	17 EWSLETTER AR	18 TICLES DUE	
19 Worship Pentecost 9:00 am	20 Girl Scouts 7:00 pm	21 Boy Scouts 7:00 pm	22	23 Bell Choir Practice 6:30 pm Choir practice 7:30 pm	24	25	
26 Worship Holy Trinity/ Memorial Day 9:00 am Sunday school	27 Memorial Day Office closed	28 Boy Scouts 7:00 pm	29	30 Bell Choir Practice 6:30 pm Choir practice 7:30 pm	31		

BASKET SOCIAL & MORE

We have quite the line up of events through the summer and into winter already scheduled. Please save the following dates:

June 2—Cash BINGO (tickets on sale NOW) Sept 8—BINGO (prizes TBA) Oct 4—Fall Basket Social Dec 7—Indoor Yard & Bake Sale

Regarding the baskets presented in our Fall Social, we will begin collecting donations in May. While considering your contribution, think of basket topics—pets, movies, games, luxury, etc. You have the option to donate a fully finished basket, a filled basket (we can do the wrapping), items for a basket, or cash/ checks, if you want us to do the shopping.

Please see Jennifer Gaugler with questions. Thank you!



Music Sunday

at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

Sunday, June 2, 2024 9am Service

Join us as our music program pulls out all the stops, featuring our favorites and giving you our best in God's name!



