

The Shepherd's Staff

From the Pastor:

Brothers and Sisters in Jesus,

On July 1 of this year, I am celebrating 5 years as being your Pastor. I have enjoyed every moment of it.

The only concern I have is that I have fallen in love with this church and its members. Why is that a concern? I have watched members struggle with getting older and I watched members get sick and die. I am not losing members, I am losing friends—people who I care for deeply. When I have to go into a hospital, hospice or home and perform Last Rites, it is really hard. I have to fight back tears.

In 6 months, we will be celebrating our 50th anniversary as a church. In the beginning, I'm sure there were many planning meetings but I believe that God had a hand in to help create a new church to spread His word. Pastor Joe Slusser and Pastor Carl Adams put in many hours and many prayers to make all this happen. Pastor Adams hopes to be with us during our celebration banquet, God willing.

On January 1st, it all began. The building started and our congregation worshipped at Mary Immaculate Seminary, the first 2 years. God opened their hearts to let us in.

Throughout our whole history, one can see God's hand in our church's life. Yes, there were difficult times but He never left us. God will never leave us.

Hopefully, many of you will participate in all the wonderful events planned by our wonderful anniversary committee. They have been working hard for a while. Let us celebrate all the wonderful blessings God has blessed us with.

Yours in Jesus,

Pastor Gary

Planning Ahead.....

Christmas in July
July 7, 14, 21 & 28

Food Bank Sunday
July 14

Outdoor Movie Night
July 20

Outdoor Worship
July 28

**Outdoor Worship &
Church Picnic**
August 25

Rally Day
September 8



From the Office of the Church Secretary...

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
1335 Old Carriage Road
Northampton, PA 18067

Church Office Hours

9:00 AM—2:00 PM

Monday—Friday

Tel. 610-262-9517

Fax 610-262-1966

goodshepherd Lutheran@rcn.com

www.goodshepherdkreidersville.org

Like us and follow us on Facebook

Worship Service

9:00 AM

STAFF

Pastor Gary L. Walbert

Cell # 610-217-6852

Pastor Walbert's office hours are

Wednesdays from 11am to 1pm

Alex Haggerty

Director of Music Ministries

Cell # 570-778-1910

Jennifer Driscoll

Church Secretary

John Moschella

Sexton

Congregation Council

David Hausman, President

Brian Dungan, Vice President

Roseann Koehler, Treasurer

JoLynn Claroni, Financial Secretary

Laurie Andrew, Executive Secretary

Alexis Saylor, Recording Secretary

(Alexis is not a member of Council)

Jason Bogden

Sarah Borger

Karen Hahn

Brenda Koch

Diane Kramer

Lisa Mann

Donna Pavlick

Happy Birthday...

Gary Walbert	July 1
Olivia Talbot	July 2
Rita Ruzicka	July 3
Patricia Gillette	July 4
Olinda Koch	July 4
Brynn Mitchell	July 4
Hunter Frantz	July 5
Jill Hahn	July 5
Charles Druckenmiller	July 6
Lori Emery	July 6
Linda Siekonik	July 7
Samantha Saylor	July 8
David Oberman	July 9
Lorraine Einfalt	July 12
Brian Panasik	July 12
Elizabeth Andrew	July 14
Darlene Pail	July 14
Morry Pulley	July 16
Chad Weiner	July 16
Mary Grow	July 18
Craig Beltzner, Sr.	July 19
Aaron Borger	July 21
Louis Schwarz	July 21
Richard Fehr	July 22
Donna Pavlick	July 24
Shelly Dorn	July 27
Amanda Dungan	July 27
Bernice Lilly	July 29
Michelle Morgan	July 29
Kayden Labarre	July 30

Happy Anniversary...

Richard & Matilde Brown

July 1

Richard & Linda Siekonik

July 3

20 Years!

Leroy & Jean Bealer

July 11

Willard & Ruth Frack

July 12

50 Years!

Christopher & Adrienne Holub

July 24

James & Donna Williams

July 30

Parochial Report

Date	Attendance
May 5	66
May 12	99
May 19	76
May 29	73
TOTAL	314
AVG.	78.5

President's Corner

Well, here we are in July already! Vacation Bible School is over. I know all the kids had a great week. Thank you to all the Christian Ed staff and helpers. Great job everyone!

Our new security system is now in place. There are four vantage points that will be monitored at all times,

1. The Upper Parking Lot outside the main entrance to the church
2. The Parking Lot outside the church office
3. The Handicap Parking Area
4. The Lower Parking Lot outside the social hall.

There is a larger inside monitor screen which makes people at the office entrance much easier for Jennifer to recognize. Hopefully, this will make everyone feel safer.

We're looking forward to our outdoor service at the end of this month, July 28th. Hope we have a good attendance and good weather for that day.

Hope everyone is enjoying the summer so far. See you in Church.

Yours in Christ,
David Hausman
President



May Financial Report

As of May 31, 2019

	General	Building Repair	Memorial
May 5, 2019	\$2,635.00	\$96.00	
May 12, 2019	\$2,136.00	\$75.00	
May 19, 2019	\$1,480.00	\$64.00	
May 26, 2019	\$1,094.00	\$40.00	
Income in May	\$7,345.00	\$275.00	
Expenses in May	\$15,101.00		

News

Congratulations



Good Shepherd would like to congratulate the following graduates:

Christine Andrew	Lehigh University, Masters, Teaching and Learning
Sarah Crossan	Belmont University
Hope Eisenhard	Catasauqua High School
Kylee Pavlick	Lock Haven University



Outdoor Worship Service

Sunday, July 28, 2019
Outdoor Service
9am



Sunday, August 25, 2019
Outdoor Service
Church Picnic
10am Worship

More information to come!

JULY WORSHIP ASSISTANT LIST

(If you are unable to keep your scheduled time, please find someone else to fill in for you)

Date	Acolyte	Assisting Minister	Pouring Chalice	Chalice Bearer	Lector	CD Ministry	Nursery	Altar Guild
July 7	Olivia Talbot	Jason Bogden	Mark Weaver	Laurie Andrew	Diane Hausman	Josh Klusaritz	Diane Kramer Emily Wiland	Diane Kramer
July 14	Owen Dungan	Richard Brown	Linda Siekonic	Donna Pavlick	Mark Weaver	Al Wiemann	Donna Yelles Josh Klusaritz	Diane Hausman
July 21	Sara Houck	David Hausman	Barb Wiemann	LeAnne Krill	David Hausman	David Stimmel	Jennifer Driscoll Aidan Seitter	Barb Wiemann
July 28	Bry Bogden	Mark Weaver	Gail Loch	Donna Walck	Nicole Bogden	Nick Miller	Karen Hahn Olivia Talbot	Group Set-up (Outdoor Service)

Date	Ushers
7/7 & 7/14	David Hausman, Nick Miller, Morry Pulley & Donald Ruch
7/21 & 7/28	Forrest Koch, Doug Yelles, Dean & Roseann Yelles

Good Shepherd is affiliated with Lehigh Valley Health Network Pastoral Care. If ever you are admitted to one of the Lehigh Valley Network Hospitals (Cedar Crest, Muhlenberg, 17th Street) or St. Luke's please give them code 232. This tells the hospital you are a member of our church. The Church Secretary calls daily to get an update to see if any members are hospitalized.

FOOD BANK

61 items in June
811 items for 2019



- Food Bank Sunday is the second Sunday of each month. Please bring your food items on that day and place them in the bins in the narthex. Good Shepherd is especially responsible for canned fruit, jelly, and applesauce. Of course, any food staples will be accepted on any Sunday. On the Second Sunday of the month (**July 14**) our prayers will include the food gifts, the recipients, and the donors.



Good Shepherd Committees The Spotlight Is On You

The Social Ministry Committee helps our church care for the sick, homebound or those who are in need of help. The committee reaches out to members of our congregation, to people of our neighboring communities and to communities worldwide.

Social Ministry is comprised of the following members: Co-Chairs Judy Fehr and JoLynn Claroni, Dot Clauser and Renae Yelles. Together this committee along with great help from the congregation, carries out a tremendous part of God's work.

The committee is a liaison to the following programs:

- **Northampton Area Food Bank**, receives monthly food item donations. The committee coordinates and delivers on a monthly basis donations of food items by our congregational members.
- **The Produce Sharing Table**, is going on now. Bring in your extra veggies, fruit, and flowers to share on this table. Congregational members patronize the sharing table by making a free will offering. Each year the money is then donated to a worthy cause.
- **There is a Gracedale County Nursing Home Visitation Program**. This is a great way to let Gracedale residents know they are not forgotten. Please think about joining us in a visit. It will not only make their day but it will make you feel that you made a difference in their lives for that day.
- **The In-Touch Program** is for our homebound members. We let them know they are remembered each month through cards, gifts and messages sent by fellow congregational members.
- **There is a Prayer Shawl Ministry** coordinated by Pastor Gary. He distributes the shawls throughout the year. We are always looking for people to donate prayer shawls. Directions for the shawls are on the bulletin board in the Narthex along with yarn for congregational members who are willing to make a shawl to donate for this ministry.
- **Northern LV Mission District Ingathering** is also a responsibility of this committee. Miscellaneous items, along with winter apparel are collected and then given to various facilities/shelters during the holiday season.
- **Bingo**, last year I was lucky enough to accompany this committee for The Social Ministry Bingo Party that was held at Fellowship Community in Whitehall on a personal care unit. We all had a great time and it was so nice to talk to the residents. Fellowship residents left with smiles and small prizes and the committee left with a warm heart.
- **Eucharistic Ministry** is a program where parishioners are trained as Eucharistic Ministers to serve communion to the homebound. Currently the committee has three Eucharistic Ministers who serve communion to the homebound and are always eager to welcome new Eucharist Ministers into this committee mission. Our Eucharistic Ministers are: Dorothy Clauser, Brenda Druckermiller and Renae Yelles.
- **Harvest Home** Ministry collects food and money to go to a very good cause. Last year they donated to the Northampton Area Food Bank and also The Victory House.

Please help us in our overall mission. If a congregational member knows of a church member who is lonely and would like a one to one visit, please contact JoLynn, Judy, Jennifer or Pastor. The committee will take it from there.



Good Shepherd's Social Ministry Bingo Party

@

Fellowship Community

3000 Fellowship Drive

Whitehall Pa 18052

Good Shepherd's Social Ministry Committee is sponsoring the 3rd Annual Bingo party, on Wednesday, July 17, 2019, 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Fellowship Community. We are requesting the help of seven to eight people to conduct and play bingo. Youth 12 years of age accompanied with a parent are invited to volunteer. Additionally, donations are needed and will be greatly appreciated for bingo prizes.

In the beginning of July, 2019, we will place a box in the Narthex for you to drop-off your donations. The wish list includes: hand lotion, body lotion, emery boards, nail polish, cologne, body spray, sugar free candy, snacks, crackers, coloring books, colored pencils, and markers. If you are interested in helping the day of the event, please contact Judy Fehr or call JoLynn Claroni 610-746-3620.

Social Ministry's mission is to extend Christian compassion and helpfulness to the ill, the aged, the orphaned, the underprivileged, the imprisoned, and in general to persons in need of assistance in body and soul. This is a wonderful way to help achieve this mission. We thank you in advance.



CHRISTMAS IN JULY 2019

The Fun(d) Raising Committee will once again hold "Christmas in July," in their continued effort to raise funds to offset church expenses. Beginning July 7, five raffle baskets (for all ages) will be displayed in the Narthex. Tickets will be sold 3 for \$1.00 each week of the month: July 7, 14, 21 and 28. Winners will be announced at our outdoor service on the 28th, and you do not have to be present to win.

Remember the wonderful homemade Christmas cookies sold in July last year? Think of a unique dessert for your summer picnic, because we're repeating it again! They will sell for \$3.50 per dozen, and the committee is again asking congregational members to help them bake their favorite cookie recipes. We had a wonderful response last year, and a signup sheet for this purpose is on the bulletin board.

All proceeds will go directly to the General Fund. Because attendance is usually lower in the summer due to vacations, etc., we all need to pitch in to bridge the gap in offerings.

THANK YOU!

2019 Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod Assembly

I had the privilege of representing Good Shepherd at the 2019 Synod Assembly on June 1 in Hazelton. This was my first time attending an Assembly and it was interesting and informative.

My day began with an orientation session for first time delegates. The presenter remarked that since our synod is the largest in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, the 60 plus “newbies” in the room would outnumber the total attendance at some small synods.

The opening Festival Worship was led by Bishop Samuel Zeiser and Vice-President Kristen Edelman-Weiner, the clerical and lay leaders of the Synod. Communion distribution to 500 worshipers requires multiple communion stations and careful organization. The offering (\$3600) was designated for ELCA World Hunger.

The business of the Synod was conducted at two Plenary Sessions. The morning session included an address by the representative from the ELCA national office (an offering of \$3300 was collected for The Campaign for the ELCA), and reports by the Synod Bishop and Vice President. In his report, Bishop Zeiser, who will be retiring next year after 12 years as Bishop, frankly discussed Synod challenges: many congregations are struggling and congregations are closing, pastors are in short supply, and everyone will need to join together to support the new bishop for the church to survive and thrive.

After an outdoor luncheon to celebrate the 50th anniversary of our Synod, we assembled for the second Plenary Session. Elections for synod offices were held (Kristen Edelman-Weiner was elected to a four year term as Vice-President), the Synod budget was approved, and compensation guidelines for pastors and deacons were adopted. The longest and most involved discussion (with substitute resolutions and amendments) revolved around a resolution related to synod youth, young adult and family ministry leadership; a ministry team will prepare a report for the new bishop next year.

Next year's Synod Assembly (June 4-6 at Kalahari Resort in Pocono Manor) will be a three day event since a new bishop will be elected.

Barb Wiemann

Farm to Table

Garden to Table



Please bring any extra produce (cut flowers are lovely too) to our Sharing Table that is now set up in the Narthex.

The proceeds given for the produce will be split between the Northampton Area Food Bank and World Hunger (ELCA).

Thank you,
Social Ministry

Stewardship of our civic freedoms

As Americans celebrate the birthday of our nation, we give thanks for our civic freedoms of speech, religion, assembly, due process, a speedy trial, voting and many more. Our freedom has made us the envy of much of the world.

But as with any valuable gift, our civic freedoms can be abused, neglected or underappreciated to the point where, if we aren't careful, they hardly matter anymore.

Lutherans are guided by Martin Luther's insight that we are simultaneously called to be responsible citizens of "two kingdoms" – first, of God's spiritual realm, and second, of earthly governments of people and laws. The synergy of our "dual citizenship" directs us to be good stewards of our civic freedoms.

Freedom of speech: Yes, even hateful speech and lies are protected under our Constitution, but Christians avoid them in obedience to Jesus' command to love our neighbor as ourselves and by the Eighth Commandment, which Luther explains in *The Small Catechism*: "We should fear and love God, so that we do not tell lies about our neighbors, betray or slander them, or destroy their reputations." We steward this freedom by speaking honestly and insisting others do, too.

Freedom of religion: Millions of people across the globe, including Christians, face persecution and discrimination because of their faith. We dare not take our freedom for granted, but exercise it with joy and defend the rights of others to follow their own consciences.

Freedom from illegal prosecution: Our guarantees of due process in legal, criminal and civil proceedings uphold justice and guard against government misconduct. It works imperfectly, as do all human systems, but as good stewards we fight for justice and the rights for all.

Freedom of self-governance: With its interconnected checks and balances, our three-branch system of government provides stability, accountability and flexibility for change. It's a great system, but it requires us to be informed and involved. We steward this freedom by participating in political processes, voting and insisting on honest government that works for our interests.

This month, as citizens of both God's spiritual realm and the United States of America, we renew our commitment to be good stewards of the freedoms we are privileged to have.

--Rob Blezard

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Pastor Blezard serves as an assistant to the bishop of the Lower Susquehanna Synod and works as content editor for www.stewardshipoflife.org. He blogs at www.thestewardshipguy.com.

SYNOD NEWS

Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA

Highlights from Assembly 2019

Festival Worship

On Saturday, June 1, approximately 500 delegates and visitors gathered at Genetti Ballrooms Inn & Suites in Hazleton for Assembly 2019. The day began with a Festival Worship Service led by Bishop Zeiser and synod Vice-President Kristen Edelman-Weiner. Service music was provided by Deacon Michael Krentz and a volunteer choir. An offering of \$3,600 was collected for World Hunger.



In his sermon, **Bishop Zeiser** spoke of a "stirring" within us when we recognize the active presence of God in our life. Driven by faith, we become convinced that we "are onto something"; and we then are



compelled to see it through. The result is ministry, ministry built on the generations of Christians who likewise were convinced that they were onto something. However, the past, no matter how great, is sometimes unhelpful for this time. Our theme "Freed in Christ for a New Day" reminds us that it is indeed a new time; and it further reminds us of who it is that got us here, and who will come again.

ELCA Churchwide Representative



The **Rev. Ronald T. Gluskamp**, Director for "Always Being made new: The Campaign for the ELCA," was this year's ELCA Churchwide representative. Pastor Gluskamp described the ELCA Churchwide ministry and mission in 2018. This included major efforts in advocacy, candidacy, congregational vitality, Fund for Leaders, World Hunger, global mission, and the Youth Gathering. He shared a video report highlighting these efforts (video link: <https://vimeo.com/332095341>) and also a video greeting from Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton (video link: <https://youtu.be/TMVRrKF2sg>). Following Pastor

Gluskamp's presentation, an offering of over \$3,300 was collected for The Campaign for the ELCA.

Bishop Zeiser's Report to the Synod

Bishop Zeiser reviewed some of the mission and ministry of our Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod during the past year. He then talked about challenges that the next bishop (to be elected at Assembly 2020) will face. He emphasized that many congregations will be facing challenging situations; and that it is critically important for both congregations and rostered ministers to commit to building a collegial relationship with the new bishop and his or her staff as together they face the immense challenges to come.



More Highlights from Assembly 2019

Luncheon

After the morning session, the delegates and visitors adjourned for a luncheon in recognition of the 50th anniversary of the Synod receiving its charter. They enjoyed their meal under a large tent on a beautiful spring afternoon.



Elections

Several individuals were elected to offices in the synod:

Synod Vice President: Kristen Edelman-Weiner

Synod Secretary: The Rev. Carl Shankweiler

Synod Council-Clergy: The Rev. Cheryl Meinschein

Synod Council-Lay Female: Ruth Major

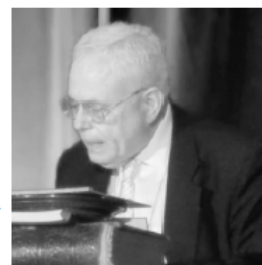
Synod Council-Lay Male: Thomas Engle

Reports from Synod Officers



Kristen Edelman-Weiner

The Assembly heard reports from the synod officers: Vice President Kristen Edelman-Weiner; Secretary The Rev. Carl Shankweiler; and Treasurer Donald Dillman. The 2020 Spending Plan was adopted with a total budget for next year of \$1,984,400, of which \$869,500 is sent to the ELCA for Mission Support; and \$148,000 is given to various church related institutions such as Bear Creek Camp, United Lutheran Seminary, Muhlenberg College, PA Conference of Churches, and LAMPa.



Rev. Carl Shankweiler

Resolutions

The Assembly adopted two resolutions. The first was a major revision of "Continuing Resolutions" offered by Synod Council to bring them up to date with current practice. The second was a resolution that the Youth, Young Adult, and Family Ministry Team address the need for synodical youth leadership; and that this Team work with the Transition Team that will report to the new bishop in 2020.

The 2020 compensation guidelines for pastors and deacons were also adopted.

Assembly 2020, June 4-6

Kalahari Resort & Convention Center Pocono Manor, PA

Plan now to attend. If you are a delegate, you will help to elect a new bishop.
And both delegates and visitors can enjoy the indoor
and outdoor waterparks of this exciting resort.



Synod News is published monthly by the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA
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View the full color edition online at <http://nepasynod.org>.

JULY 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 BOY SCOUTS 7PM CHRISTIAN EDUCATION 7:30PM	3	4 OFFICE CLOSED	5	6
7 CHRISTMAS IN JULY 9:00AM WORSHIP	8 COUNCIL 7PM	9 BOY SCOUTS 7PM	10	11	12	13
14 CHRISTMAS IN JULY FOOD BANK SUNDAY 9:00AM WORSHIP	15	16 BOY SCOUTS 7PM	17 SOCIAL MINISTRY 'S BINGO PARTY @ FELLOWSHIP COMMUNITY 1:30PM	18	19	20 OUTDOOR FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT 8PM
21 CHRISTMAS IN JULY 9:00AM WORSHIP	22 OUTREACH 7PM PROPERTY 7PM	23 BOY SCOUTS 7PM	24	25	26	27
28 CHRISTMAS IN JULY OUTDOOR WORSHIP 9:00AM WORSHIP	29	30 BOY SCOUTS 7PM	31 BOY SCOUT COMMITTEE MTG. 7PM			