

The Shepherd's Staff

From the Pastor:

Brothers and Sisters in Jesus,

It is time, finally. We are entering a new year and we are also entering a new beginning. Since March of 2020, our life changed radically. Life shut down and we lived in fear of getting the virus. The virus is still around and might be for a long time but it is time for our church to feel the excitement of worship, fellowship and being children of the Heavenly Father.

We read in Romans 12:2 “...let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.” So, how do we let God transform us? We start in worship. All change begins in worship. When we truly worship God, His Holy Spirit begins to mold us into true children of God. We will be shown how to reach out to the community around us.

It is time for us to leave our COVID lethargy and move into the light. We have much to accomplish this upcoming year. We need to have excitement in worship and just enjoy being together. We need to look for new avenues for fundraising. We need to continue our out reach to the Food Bank and seek other avenues of out reach in the community, in other words, we need to be a leader in our community.

So, let's have 2022 be a year of renewal of hope in our church and continue to work to build our church family. We start with worship, with the Eucharistic Meal and, most importantly, prayer and daily devotion.

Are you with me?

In His Hands,

Pastor Gary

Planning Ahead.....

**Congregational Council
Installation
January 2**

**Food Bank Sunday
January 9**

**In Touch Sunday
January 16**

**70s Dance Party
February 12**

**Mardi Gras Talent Show
February 26**

**New Member Reception
January 30**

HOPE





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 Baker

Church Secretary

John Moschella

Sexton

Congregation Council

Nicole Bogden, President

Christopher Holub, Vice President

Jessica Kirkpatrick, Treasurer

JoLynn Claroni, Financial Secretary

Laurie Andrew, Executive Secretary

Alexis Saylor, Recording Secretary

(Alexis, JoLynn & Laurie are not members of Council)

Jennifer Bevan

Benjamin Bogden

Brian Dungan

Diane Kramer

Lisa Mann

Donna Pavlick

Happy Birthday...

Kayla Dennis	January 2
Brian Emery	January 2
Jared Schmall	January 2
Nancy Kochenash	January 3
Bonnie Spengler	January 3
Mica Smith	January 8
Corbin Reinsmith	January 11
Diane Kramer	January 13
Nicholas Miller	January 14
Cody Kramer	January 20
Wayne Eichelberger	January 21
William Sherman	January 21
Amber Shook	January 21
Laurie Perna	January 22
David Hausman	January 23
Diana Kratzer	January 23
Jolene LaBarre	January 23
Tina Miller	January 23
Dean Yelles	January 23
Dorothy Clauser	January 24
Brittany Hahn	January 26
Helen Moyer	January 27
Barbara Steigerwalt	January 27
Teesa James	January 31

Parochial Report

November 7, 2021	105
November 14, 2021	53
November 21, 2021	69
November 28, 2021	59
Total	286
Average	71.5

President's Corner

Happy New Year to All!

I hope that everyone had a wonderful holiday. I am excited to be your Church Council President once again. The last 2 years have been very challenging for all of us. As we try to get back to living again, I remind you that God is with us supporting us, guiding us, and protecting us. We will continue following protocols, to do the best we can to keep everyone healthy and safe.

Please stay tuned to our Facebook page and newsletter for upcoming events. We need to breathe life back into our church. Feel free to contact me with any concerns, questions, and /or suggestions.

God Bless,

Nicole Bogden

President

E-mail: bensmom1101@ptd.net

Cell: 484-241-1275



November Financial Report

As of November 30, 2021

Total Offering	
Income in November	\$16,627.00
Expenses in November	\$13,306.49

PASTORAL ACTS



Received in the month of December

In Memory of Sherry Miller
Given by:

Margaret Beslanovits
Dorothy Baer
Heidi Baer
Katherine Buss
Mr. & Mrs. Larry Finley
Mr. & Mrs. Gary Frack
Jay H. Gilbert & Family
Debra Hoffman
Mr. & Mrs. Randall Hofstetter
Mr. & Mrs. Joel Kleckner and family
MaryEllen Kleckner
Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Rooney
Betty Ann Woyevoda

Thank You!

Thank you for all the thoughts and prayers while I have been recovering from my surgery. I felt comforted to have so many wonderful people who cared about my well-being. God Bless you all!

Jolene LaBarre



Received in the month of December

In Memory of Samuel Tamer
Given by:

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Tamer

Thank You!

The Christian Education Committee would like to thank everyone for contributing to our mission program for Turning Point.

Thanks to your generosity we collected sixty-five \$25.00 gift cards for the moms to purchase a special gift for their children for Christmas to make their Christmas a special one this year.

Thank you so much for helping,

Christian Education Committee

CHURCH COUNCIL



Good Shepherd Lutheran Church 2022 Council

President

Nicole Bogden

Vice President

Christopher Holub

Financial Secretary

JoLynn Claroni

(Not a member of Council)

Executive Secretary

Laurie Andrew

(Not a member of Council)

Treasurer

Jessica Kirkpatrick

Recording Secretary

Alexis Saylor

(Not a member of Council)

Benjamin Bogden

Jennifer Burrell

Brian Dungan

Diane Kramer

Lisa Mann

Donna Pavlick



Sunday School News

SUNDAY SCHOOL 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.



Worship Services

Good Shepherd has a Facebook page. Please join us on Sundays at 9am. We are live streaming our regular worship service.

You do not have to have a Facebook account to view the service or to visit our page.

Please visit us at:

www.facebook.com/Good-Shepherd-Lutheran-Church-Kreidersville-459514777494839/

For updates regarding worship services you can continue to visit our Facebook page; you can also visit our website: www.goodshepherdkreidersville.org or you can call the Church Office.



News

CHURCH NEWS

Just a reminder that Good Shepherd participates in the programs listed below. Your help can make a difference.



Redner's Save-A-Tape

The Fundraising Committee is taking care of the Redner's Save-A-Tape program.

All you need to do is shop as usual and use your Redner's reward card at check out.

Please use your Redner's Save A –Tape Card.

Any receipt without it cannot be used!

Receipts can be mailed to the Church office or dropped off.



Good Shepherd

Is registered with Amazon Smile!

Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to the charitable organization of your choice.

AmazonSmile is the same Amazon you know. Same products, same prices, same service.

Support your Good Shepherd by going to this link:

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/23-2389879>

Once Good Shepherd is selected, all Amazon donations will come to Good Shepherd.



Fundraising Committee

The Fundraising Committee is getting ready to resume its fundraising activities with a soup sale coming in mid-February. Details of this sale will follow in forthcoming Sunday bulletins, Sunday church announcements, and the February Newsletter. In short we are planning to announce the soups to be offered, take pre-orders and payment for soup in the Narthex, and possibly have a contact person for orders via phone. For your comfort level, we will be trying the pickup of soup in our social hall preferably on a Saturday but if that does not work then the soup will be available on Sunday after church for pickup.

Additionally the Fundraising Committee is looking for new ideas and new members to join us. Please contact Carole Holub on a Sunday or call 610-262-7493. Once we hear from anyone interested in joining us, we will have a reorganizational meeting at a time and date that works for everyone to meet. So if interested, please inform Carole and tell her what date and time work for you and thank you in advance in this consideration.



New Secretary

Our personnel committee presented the name of Jennifer Baker as our new secretary. It was an unanimous vote to approve her. Jennifer lives in Catasauqua. She is married with a 14 year old daughter and an 8 year old son. She belongs to St. Ann's Roman Catholic Church in Bethlehem.

We are very grateful to Jennifer Driscoll for 6 years of faithful service. She has certainly made my job easier. She is working weekends to keep the church going and will also be training Jennifer Baker.

You will have an opportunity to meet Jennifer on January 9th. She will be attending worship with her family. Please make her feel welcome.

Pastor Gary



New Member Reception

On Sunday, January 30th we will receive the new members during the worship service. Please fill out the form below and hand it to the pastor or place it in the offering plate.

NAME:

ADDRESS:

PHONE:

CHURCH AFFILIATION:

RENOVATION Celebration

We DID IT!

On Monday, December 13, we officially went over our \$50,000 goal! We started this drive in November of 2019. It has been a great challenge since we had several shut downs due to COVID but we kept chipping away.

Thank you to Brian Dungan who organized this program.

A big THANK YOU to all who contributed to our Capital Fund Drive.

JANUARY WORSHIP ASSISTANT LIST

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

Date	Assisting Minister	Lector	Pouring Chalice	Acolytes
January 2	Ben Bogden	Ben Bogden	Barbara Wiemann	Alexa Wiland
January 9	Jessica Kirkpatrick	Edwin Marshall	Mark Weaver	Cody Reimer
January 16	Mark Weaver	Linda Siekonic	Jessica Kirkpatrick	Charles Burrell
January 23	Chris Holub	Chris Holub	Gail Loch	William Burrell
January 30	David Hausman	Jessica Kirkpatrick	Linda Siekonic	Andrew LaBarre

Date	Ushers
January 2	Ed Filipovits, David Hausman, Jessica Kirkpatrick, Dan Pavlick
January 9	Dan Pavlick, Dean Yelles, Doug Yelles, Roseann Yelles
January 16	Ed Filipovits, Dan Pavlick, Dean Yelles, Roseann Yelles
January 23	David Hausman, Jessica Kirkpatrick, Dean Yelles, Roseann Yelles
January 30	Ed Filipovits, Jessica Kirkpatrick, Dan Pavlick, Doug Yelles

It Takes a Congregation to Sustain a Church Pastor Gary's Food Bank Challenge "2021 PLUS Items Donated for 2021"

407 items in November
4, 583 items for 2021

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 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 (**January 9**) our prayers will include the food gifts, the recipients, and the donors.
- IN TOUCH" Sunday is the third Sunday of each month (**January 16**). Starting at the beginning of the month you can take a name of a member from the collection plate in the narthex and send a card so they know we are thinking of them, remember them, wish them well and are keeping them in our prayers.



Mardi Gras Talent Show
February 26, 2022
5pm-9pm
Fellowship Hall

Come one, come all and show off your God given talent. Covered dish dinner. Bring your favorite covered dish with the talent show to follow. Fun, food and fellowship!



DANCE PARTY!
February 12, 2022

Doors open at 6:30pm
Music and Refreshments

Event sponsored by OutReach Committee



SYNOD NEWS

NORTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA SYNOD, ELCA

JANUARY 2022 • ISSUE 1 • VOLUME 30

Covid-19 Update & Guidelines

The Latest Situation: The Covid-19 pandemic continues to generate fear, concern, confusion and division across the country and within our own Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod. The most recent developments – some troubling, some hopeful – include:

- The rise of new variants, especially “omicron”;
- The ongoing and in many cases, increasing numbers of new cases;
- The continued reluctance and refusal of some to get vaccinated, or to wear masks;
- On the good side: the increased opportunities for testing, for boosters, and for vaccines for all ages.

Here in our Synod, I now encourage us to use another trustworthy source of information to help guide our decisions concerning the pandemic: the “Covid Act Now Coalition.” This non-profit, web-based resource brings together non-partisan experts in medicine, law, and public policy, to provide objective data and analysis. Their website is being consulted as a reliable source by synods and congregations across the ELCA. From their site, we can see clearly that things are still very threatening here in NE Penn: all 14 of our counties have threat levels of “VERY HIGH” or “SEVERE” – Berks, Carbon, Lehigh, Northampton, and Schuylkill all are in that worst category. Additionally, the vaccination rate is at or below 60% for 7 of those 14 counties. Most of these numbers are worse than the data for many of our neighboring synods, including the Southeastern Penn Synod, whose leaders have nonetheless chosen to put in place stricter guidelines than we have. I believe we can become safer and return to “normal” sooner if we follow their lead.

Dr. Luther Shows The Way:

Almost exactly 500 years ago – in November 1520 – Martin Luther published one of his most ground-breaking treatises: “On the Freedom of a Christian.” He begins the document with this famous declaration: “A Christian is the most free lord of all, subject to none. And a Christian is the most dutiful servant of all, and subject to everyone.”

He goes on to describe how God, through Christ’s sacrificial love for us on the cross, has granted us the grace and the freedom to make our own decisions; but this freedom does not release us to disregard the truth, or our call to care and concern for our neighbor. Luther writes: “Therefore [Christians] should be guided in all [their] works by this thought and contemplate this one thing alone, that [they] may serve and benefit others in all that [they do], considering nothing except the need and the advantage of [the] neighbor.”

So “what does this mean?” The inconvenience of mask wearing; and even the threat of temporary cold-and-flu reactions to vaccinations – these are simply the sacrifices we are called to make, as “the dutiful servants of all, subject to everyone.” It is within this traditionally and theologically Lutheran framing that we maintain our vigilance; and update our guidelines here.

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Covid-19 Continued...**Latest Synod Recommendations:**

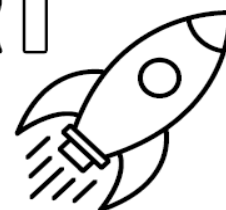
As we prepare for the larger crowds of Christmas Eve – and with Lent, Holy Week and Easter not far away – I am recommending the starting, the continuation, or the resumption, of any and all common-sense and good-neighbor precautions, including:

- Proof of vaccination or a negative test for all indoor events
 - Indoor masking
- Good air circulation, including open windows where feasible
- Social distancing, frequent washing and other effective protocols

Furthermore – at their January 15 meeting, I am encouraging our Synod Council to discuss and decide upon further appropriate actions, which may include mandates that all Synod-sponsored indoor events require masking, proof of vaccination, and/or proof of a negative test. As the duly elected governing body of this Synod, your Synod Council has the right and responsibility to make these decisions for Synod gatherings. When it comes to our individual worshipping communities, our authority is more limited; Synod Council (and myself) can only make clear and strong recommendations – based on the best science, on good conscience and on our common love for our neighbors, especially those who are most vulnerable. In other words, all congregations have the “freedom of a Christian” to decide for themselves how they will choose to act – or refuse to act. I invite us all to follow our baptismal call and Lutheran heritage, to follow God’s will and God’s love for all.

In God’s Love,
Bishop Christopher deForest

MISSION SUPPORT 2022



Send in your mission support commitments for 2022. You can find the form on the synod website, under the resources tab.

**boundless
god beyond measure**

**JULY 24-28, 2022
MINNEAPOLIS, MN
REGISTER NOW AT ELCA.ORG**

Save the date **SYNOD ASSEMBLY 2022**
June 10-11
Reading

JANUARY 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 EPIPHANY INSTALLATION OF CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL MEMBERS 9:00AM WORSHIP	3 WORSHIP & MUSIC 7PM GIRL SCOUTS 6:30PM	4 CHRISTIAN EDUCATION 7PM CUB SCOUTS 6:30PM BOY SCOUTS 7PM	5	6 COUNCIL REPORTS DUE	7	8
9 BAPTISM OF OUR LORD FOOD BANK SUNDAY 9:00AM WORSHIP 10:15AM SUNDAY SCHOOL	10 COUNCIL 6:30PM GIRL SCOUTS 6:30PM	11 CUB SCOUTS 6:30PM BOY SCOUTS 7PM	12	13	14	15
16 SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY IN TOUCH SUNDAY 9:00AM WORSHIP 10:15AM SUNDAY SCHOOL	17 GIRL SCOUTS 6:30PM	18 CUB SCOUTS 6:30PM BOY SCOUTS 7PM	19	20 NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE BELL CHOIR 6:30PM CHOIR 7:15PM	21	22
23 THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY 9:00AM WORSHIP 10:15AM SUNDAY SCHOOL	24 GIRL SCOUTS 6:30PM	25 CUB SCOUTS 6:30PM BOY SCOUTS 7PM	26	27 BELL CHOIR 6:30PM CHOIR 7:15PM	28	29
30 FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY NEW MEMBER RECEPTION						