

Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd
107 South 17th Avenue
Coatesville, Pennsylvania 19320
(610) 384-2035 www.LuthGoodShep.org

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No.
242
Coatesville,

February 2016

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Our Mission: "To Know, Live and Share God's Word"

The Shepherd's Voice

February 2016





2/01	Paul Wayne	2/14	Jill Scott
2/02	Edward Waas	2/15	Al Spotts
2/03	Jennifer Miller		Barb Bertoni
2/04	Wayne Croshaw Cynthia Semple	2/16	Tina Habecker Rebecca McGeehan
2/05	Elaine Entrekin Milt Searles		Brandon LoPresti Anthony LoPresti
2/06	Anna Franklin Betty Lou Lusky Noel Harrje Gabriela Barajas	2/17	Helen Kuch Dorothy Steever
2/09	Jennifer Hayes	2/18	Linda Root
2/10	Mary Lou Rubincam Chris Solt	2/19	Erna Wilcox Jean Broderick Ronald Green, Jr. Enoch Williams
2/11	Jessie Hostutler Dennis Rineer Kyle Simpson Joseph Reilly, Jr.	2/23	William Martz Zoltan Varga Jr. Bernard Beegle
2/13	Linda Croshaw James Smaltz Taylor Dantonio	2/24	Joseph Riddle
		2/26	Christiana McLean
		2/27	Stephen Lozinski

Happy Anniversary!

Sharon & Paul Gainor	52 years	2/08
Carol Ann & Phillip Grow	50 years	2/11
Bob & Cyn Mallalieu	33 years	2/14
Mary Lou & Jerry Rubincam	26 years	2/14
Mark & Valerie Neff	8 years	2/14
Daniel & Jane Young	22 years	2/19
Daniel & Anita Gballah	24 years	2/20
Hanny & John White	34 years	2/27

This Month on February 16th

Spoken Communion services at 11:00 a.m. on the 3rd Tuesday of each month (through May), Pastor Lynch gathers with a small group of members for a service of Holy Communion in the Café. If you are not able to make it on Sundays, please consider attending this service. After the service participants are welcome to stay for lunch and fellowship in the Fellowship Hall. While many of the people who attend this service are senior citizens, there is no age requirement. All are welcome. And on the same day, Pastor Lynch goes to Freedom Village at 2:00 p.m. to lead the same service in the Great Room in the Assisted Living facility. All Freedom Village residents are welcome to attend.



***Pancake Breakfast!* And Church Work Day**

Saturday February 20th 8 -10a.m. This event is open to the public. Tell your friends and neighbors. Join us for pancakes, french toast, bacon, sausage, omelets made to order, hash browns, fruit, coffee. This is also a Church Work Day, so fill your belly and then work it off!



repairing homes and restoring hope

Sign Up Now - Good Works Work Day Scheduled For Saturday, March 5! Good Shepherd will again be participating in a Good Works, Inc. Coatesville area work day on Saturday, March 5, from 8:30am until about 3:30pm. 8 volunteers, including up to 4 Senior High youth are needed to lend a hand making home repairs for area

homeowners in need. Lunch and tools will be provided! No construction experience is necessary - repair instructions are provided by on-site Good Works staff who remain with volunteers the entire day. For more information about Good Works, Inc., check out their website at www.goodworksinc.org. **Sign up now** in the narthex to participate in this community service opportunity! Questions? Contact Dave or Pam Dean

Thank you

A note of thanks to the members of Good Shepherd for all the prayers and support throughout the past few years for my husband Charles (Bud) Cary. He passed away peacefully at home on January 22nd with the family at his side. A special thanks to Pastor Susan, who visited us during his last few days and sang a few of Bud's favorite hymns, which we know he enjoyed. Pastor Susan was also instrumental in helping us plan a beautiful service to celebrate Bud's life and our entire family is so very grateful. *Thelma Cary*



1st Communion Classes

1st grade students and parents are invited to participate in 1st Communion classes during the Sunday School hour on the following Sundays: February 21 & 28, March 6 & 13, and April 3. Students who participate and complete the training will receive their First Holy Communion in worship on Sunday, April 10. To register your child for 1st Communion training please contact the church office ([610-384-2035](tel:610-384-2035)).



Dinner Church

Join us on Wednesday evenings in Lent for DINNER CHURCH!

For our Wednesday evening Lenten Suppers and Worship Services in 2016, we will be sharing an experience called DINNER CHURCH. DINNER CHURCH is a worship service that takes place **during** a meal. Yes, Dinner and worship are woven together to take place **simultaneously**. The idea comes from the earliest centuries of the Christian church, when we know that Holy Communion and other parts of worship took place during an actual full meal.

Beginning on Wednesday, February 17th, schedule for Dinner and Worship will be:

5:45 p.m. Gather for Fellowship and Coffee/Tea

6:00 p.m. DINNER CHURCH begins - BOTH Dinner and Worship will begin.

6:55 p.m. Time of Blessing and Sending as DINNER CHURCH concludes.

We will need some extra kitchen helpers for the DINNER CHURCH evenings. If you can help in the kitchen or can donate soup/food, please sign up in the narthex. If you are curious about the idea behind DINNER CHURCH or how ELCA congregations are engaging this concept, please speak to Pastor Lynch.



Valentine's Day Renewal of Wedding Vows –

On Sunday, February 14, 2016 immediately following the 10:30 a.m. worship service, all married couples of the congregation are invited to join Pastor Lynch in the Sanctuary for a brief service for Renewal of Marriage Vows. Whether you have been married 2 years or 70 year, you and your spouse are welcome to attend and recommit your hearts and lives to one another.

Pastor's Page

Hearing the Father's Voice

I spent some time recently listening to my father's voice. What? Yes, he did pass away three years ago. But sometimes a word or something that someone said long ago, just surfaces.

As I write this it is December, and this year I decided to embark on some holiday baking. Specifically, I decided to pull out my Grandmother's recipes from the "old country" (read: Holland) for holiday goodies. My maternal grandparents were Dutch, and my childhood is filled of memories of Almond cookies and Banket (a pastry filled with an almond paste based mix) – basically foods whose primary ingredients are almond paste, an enormous amount of butter, with a little sugar and flour thrown to round it all out.

I haven't made these in years. But this year I got a deep craving for the ancestral goodies, so I pulled out the recipes, bought the necessary stuff, and went to work. I started with the cookies. I knew I could pull these off. But the pastry... Well... I had never gotten the pastry shell quite right, and this had always frustrated me. So JUST IN CASE – I placed an order with Vander Veen's Dutch Store in Michigan to make sure I would have the Banket/pastry on Christmas Day.

As I started measuring and mixing for the pastry, I thought "Why is my pastry shell always wrong? Why isn't light and fluffy like the Banket from the Dutch bakery?" (Okay – they bake for a living, so theirs *should* be a little better than mine...) I thought, "I can make an excellent, light, flaky pie crust. Why can't I make this?"

Which is when I heard my father's voice start coaching me. "Mix it gently." "Add the water very, very slowly." "Don't over work the dough." "There will be a point where you will want to add more water. Don't – just wait." And when I was rolling it out, "Roll it out between sheets of wax paper" and "don't add flour here – you don't need it."

It was strange to feel my self being guided by my father's voice. Why? Because these were not HIS family recipes. It's my mother who is Dutch, who inherited the recipes from her mother. It's my mother who taught me to make these things as a child. You would think I would be listening for her voice, right? Except my mother's philosophy of baking was something along the lines of throw everything in a bowl together, mix it up, and hope for the best!

But my father was the one who made the pies. After my mom saw my father make a pie crust from scratch, she abandoned pie making entirely. As one of my friends put it, my father's family had the pie crust making gene. My mom's family did not.

Somewhere in my post college years, I finally had my father teach me to make a pie crust. And apparently, I got that pie crust gene from him.

As I thought about making the Dutch pastry in December and had the random thought about pie crust, something connected the two in my brain. So as I mixed the flour and butter and water, my father's voice suddenly came into my mind, and I found myself making the pastry shell much like a pie crust.

Cont.

The instructions were long lost words and sentences from a time with my father many years ago. I hadn't thought of it in years. And yet suddenly, his words, his voice, they resurfaced, guiding my hands and helping me sense the direction I needed to go with that dough.

As I have reflected on this, I think that sometimes that is how it is with our relationship with God. We hear the words, the guidance, and life goes on. God's words for today get buried in the business of living moment to moment. They can become a forgotten memory that has no reason to surface.

And yet, at some point in the future, surface they will. The memories will jolt us at unexpected moments, if we let them - if we are willing to entertain the memory that has nudged its way to the top of our thoughts to vie for our attention. And these words can once again guide us and shape our lives, sometimes in completely new ways. It's wonderful to know that God works this way.

And yet... It is also a reminder that we need to take the time to BE PRESENT WITH GOD, and to LISTEN to God's voice. There is a reason we lift up spiritual disciplines as Christians, such as daily pray, daily reading of scripture, and regular worship. In order for our memory to record God's voice, we need to actually encounter it in the first place. We need to make regular time in our lives to be with God and to just listen. God's voice may speak important words to us in a hymn or a sermon, a Bible verse or during meditation. But what we know from the people of faith who have gone before us is that God DOES speak.

So we need to be present with God to listen. To absorb. To let God's voice sink deep within our hearts so it can rise again one day with the wisdom we need most in the future.

In this New Year, make a new commitment to setting aside time for God. Then simply be present. And listen.

Pastor Susan

February 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 1:00p Prayer Shawl	3 10:30a Bible Study 6:00p Choir Rehearsal	4 6:45p Stephen Ministry	5	6
7 Transfiguration 8:00a Worship 9:15a Sunday School 9:15 a Thrivent Wkshp 10:30a Worship Scout Sunday 12n Thrivent Wkshp	8 7:00p Confirmation Class 7:00p Handbell Rehearsal	9	10 Ash Wednesday 10:30a Bible Study 12n Worship 6:00p Choir Rehearsal 7:30p Worship	11 1:00p Mission Quilting 7:15p Property Meeting	12	13
14 Valentine's Day 8:00a Worship 9:15a Sunday School 10:30a Worship 12n Vow Renewal	15 7:00p Handbell Rehearsal	16 11:00a Spoken Communion 1:00p Prayer Shawl 2:00p Freedom Village 7:00p Council Meeting	17 10:30a Bible Study 5:45p Dinner Church 7:00p Choir Rehearsal	18 7:00p Christian Ed Meeting	19	20 8:00a Pancake Breakfast Work Day 1:00 p JAM Youth Grp
21 8:00a Worship 9:15a Sunday School 10:30a Worship	22 7:00p Confirmation Class 7:00p Handbell Rehearsal	23	24 10:30a Bible Study 5:45p Dinner Church 7:00p Choir Rehearsal	25	26	27
28 8:00a Worship 9:15a Sunday School 10:30a Worship 12n Handbell Rehearsal	29	Notes:				