

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



December 2018

Dated Material: Mailed, 11/28/18

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

The Shepherd's Voice

December 2018





12/1	Steven Seegers	12/13	Natalia Castro	12/28	Brodie Donohue
12/3	Bendu Dorley	12/14	Larry Garver		Leviticus Coleman
	Tommy Wayne	12/15	Kim Przychodzien	12/29	Noelle Raytik
	Joey Wayne	12/18	Daphne Willard	12/30	William Huston
12/4	Maureen Breuninger	12/19	Jacob Kuhn		Charlotte Townsend
	Sandy Haines		Brandon Hardy		Carol MacMurray
12/8	Cindy Beegle	12/20	Derek Ross		
	Tara Zaplitny	12/21	Hannah Emig		
12/9	Jeffrey Seegers	12/22	Christina Stofflet		
12/11	Zwannah Dorley	12/24	Eva Kujat		
	Anna Gill		John Anderson, Sr.		
	Shaquell Dorley	12/25	Phillip Castro		
	Blaise Davidson		David Grigsby		
12/12	Raymond Taylor	12/27	Margerie Gastrock		



12/13	Lisa & Daniel Barnes	3 yrs.
12/29	Sara & Chris Kuhn	12 yrs.
12/31	Chris & Kristen Solt	16 yrs.

Pastor's Page

We ALL have family holiday traditions that are unique to our individual families. For some families, the traditions surround continuing to use specific family recipes, regardless of how good or bad they are. For some, the traditions involved what happens at the family gathering, like watching football, or decorating for Christmas, or playing board games after the big meal.

In the last month, I have been reminded of those "set in stone" family holiday traditions of my own childhood. Every Thanksgiving and Christmas, my parents, my sister, and I got in the car and drove to the home of dad's sister, my Aunt Kathryn, and her family. And after we all ate our fill, the inevitable happened... my cousin Joe would pull the Jeopardy board game box out (yes, based on the TV game show) and insist that we play. Every. Single. Time. Every. Single. Year.

Cries of "NO!" and "Do we have to?" and "Ugh!" would fill the air. But Joe would insist! So we played, answering esoteric questions, and always remembering to phrase our response in the form of a question. Some family members would manage to cheat, and some of my cousins would always review the question cards (and the answers) in advance of the holiday gathering to improve their chances of winning. It was soooo predictable. And although we would all still claim to this day that we never wanted to play Jeopardy at these gatherings, somehow we all ended up in the game.

In the last month, I have been in contact with ALL of my cousins, and the now adult children of my cousins. For all of the protestation in years past over this game, when we talked about my mom and fond memories of our families, one topic kept surfacing over and over again. Jeopardy.

In my family, Jeopardy is the background of many inside family jokes, remembered conversations, quotes, and perspectives on life. Jeopardy memories remind me and my cousins of laughter and love. For every story that makes us roll our eyes, there are five other stories that warm our hearts. Yet if you ask any one of us today about WHY we played this board game called Jeopardy, we will groan and say "It's just what we did. Like there was some unwritten rule that said it was required when the family gathered." That's our family's version of "because we've always done it this way..."

In the life of a faith community, there are also things that we don't always feel like doing on a regular basis, things that we think "Oof. Do we HAVE too?" It may be going to a meeting, or cooking a meal for Vacation Bible School, or putting together a Christmas Pageant. But somehow, beyond the purpose and task of these things, community happens. We get to know one another. We come together over and over, and in the process of the work, we find ourselves laughing together, and sharing our lives with one another. When the work is done, we take with us relationships and memories that are meaningful and rich.

In every congregation, there are things we do because it's "what we do," and we may not always feel like doing those things. Some need to be re-evaluated, changed or ended. But we always need to find reasons for coming together, both for the mission of Christ, for worship and for fellowship. And we each need to commit to being a part of those events, even on days when we just don't feel like it. Because more happens in those gatherings than just what is on the agenda. Connection happens. Community laughter happens. And love grows. Always remember the importance of being present and participating in these events.

In these seasons of Advent and Christmas, as we have the opportunity to gather with family and friends as well, please remember the importance of being present and doing "all the things" even when you may not feel like it. Because you may find laughter. You may find hope. You may find reconnection and love.

Love. Connection. Laughter. Hope. This December and in the year to come, please recommit to being present, to showing up with and for both your church and your family – because this is often when Christ blesses us with these gifts. Merry Christmas.

Pastor Susan Lynch

Children's Christmas Pageant - 12/9/18

Please join the youth of LCGS as they present this year's Christmas Pageant "Chris-myth Busters" on Sunday, December 9th at the 10:30 service. This show is about Ethan's new adopted brother, Michael, who starts busting myths about Christmas to Ethan's friends. In the story, Michael learns that even though some facts about the very first Christmas might not be clear, the truth about why Jesus came is everywhere in the scripture. Please join us for this delightful pageant and invite your family and friends!

Spoken Communion

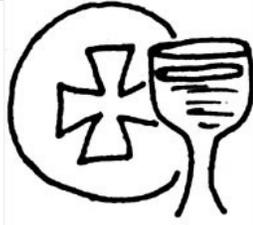
December 11, 2018

Do you, or someone you know, work or have difficulty getting to church on Sundays?

On the 2nd Tuesday of this month at 11:00 am a worship service with communion will be held in Fellowship Hall.

Lunch and fellowship immediately following!

Join us! Bring a friend!!



Spoken Communion

At Freedom Village

December 10, 2018

On the 2nd Monday of this month at 2:00 pm Pastor Lynch will conduct a worship service with communion for residents of Freedom Village in the Great Room of The Gardens.

If you are a resident, or know of someone who would enjoy attending, please join us!

Breakfast with Santa! Saturday, December 15

(Snow date 12/22)

Children and their families are invited to see Santa and enjoy breakfast, activities, and more!

Breakfast buffet begins at 8:00 am.

Santa arrives at 9:00 AM – 10:30 AM.

Visits & photos with Santa. Activities, crafts, face painting, favors and more!

Breakfast, featuring scrambled eggs, pancakes, French toast, bacon, sausage, home fries, chipped beef, toast, and beverages. FREE for children age 12 and under, \$8 for adults.

Come out and enjoy the fun!!!!

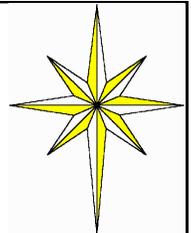


Christmas Eve Worship Services

We will have 2 worship services on Monday, December 24, 2018.

3:00 p.m. – This Traditional Christmas service will include a Children's Sermon, Holy Communion, and Candle Lighting.

7:00 p.m. – A formal, yet family friendly Christmas service will include music from the Choirs and Instrumental Ensembles, a Children's Sermon, Holy Communion, Candle Lighting and worship leadership from both youth and adults.



Holiday Gift Cards Available

Do you purchase gift cards for the holidays? Do you know about the Scrip Program? We have gift cards available for stores and restaurants. These cards do not cost you anything additional to purchase however we do get a percentage back from the program that benefits the youth groups. Please consider purchasing your gift cards through the church. Please see or contact Jill Scott for more information or to purchase. cats3j@comcast.net, 484.712.5242 (Home), 484.288.0809 (Cell)



Social Ministry Christmas Meals & Angel Tree



Social Ministry is preparing for our Christmas Meal and Angel Tree distribution. Please return any donations (food or gifts) no later than 12/15/18. The food lists are on the Welcome Center. Please indicate the quantity of each food that you plan to donate, again by 12/15/18. The Angel Tree has numerous angels and ornaments listing gifts that will give our recipient families a better Christmas. Please return the gift by (guess when!) 12/15/18. It should be unwrapped and have the angel or ornament securely attached. Thank you very much for your continuing generosity!!



Altar Guild needs your help!

We are in need of new members that want to be involved in an important, "behind the scenes" ministry preparing the altar for communion at the Sunday services and cleaning up. We have six groups within the Altar Guild that work together. Each team is assigned just two months out of the year so it is not a huge time commitment. Contact Cheri McMena for more information! cmcmena@gmail.com

Soles 4 Souls

We are collecting gently used shoes to donate to the Soles 4 Souls campaign! There is a box in the Narthex to place your donations! Thank you!

Happy Birthday Jesus!



A big **THANK YOU** to Thrivent Financial for their support of Breakfast with Santa.

Thrivent helped out with a \$250 action team grant. Each Thrivent member with insurance or an annuity can apply for two Action team grants per year. Mutual fund only members can apply for three grants in their lifetime. If you have a charity or cause you want to support go to Thrivent.com and look for Action Teams on the pull down menu. A Thrivent Action team grant also helped support Vacation Bible School this year and our Thanksgiving outreach.

Congregational Meeting has been rescheduled for Sunday, January 20, 2019 immediately following the 10:30 am service. Please mark your calendar!!



Poinsettias will be used to adorn the altar on Christmas Eve. The deadline to order is **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2018**. The cost is \$8.00 per plant. Flowers may be taken home after the last service on Christmas Eve.

POINSETTIA ORDER FORM (Please print)
DEADLINE IS SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2018

Given by _____

In memory of _____

In honor of _____

Please enclose \$8 for each plant and bring your form and money and put in the designated box in the narthex, or mail to the church.

Poinsettias will be used to adorn the altar on Christmas Eve. The deadline to order is **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2018**. The cost is \$8.00 per plant. Flowers may be taken home after the last service on Christmas Eve.

POINSETTIA ORDER FORM (Please print)
DEADLINE IS SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2018

Given by _____

In memory of _____

In honor of _____

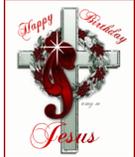
Please enclose \$8 for each plant and bring your form and money and put in the designated box in the narthex, or mail to the church office.



Luke 2:14

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

December, 2018

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
2 Wood Church 8am Worship 9:15am KLS Sunday School 10:30am Worship 1pm Room 11 Rental	3 4pm Bridge of Hope Dinner 6:30pm TOPS 7pm Confirmation Class 7:30pm Handbell Choir	4 1pm Prayer Shawl 7pm Adventure Crew	5 10:30am Bible Study 6pm Adult Choir 7pm Boy Scouts	6 6:30pm Stephen Ministry	7 12pm Sr. Grp. Cards	1 4pm Hall Rental 8 9:00 Pageant Rehearsal
9 Youth Christmas Pageant 8am Worship 9:15 am KLS Sunday School 10:30am Worship/Pageant/Baptism 1pm Room 11 Rental	10 2pm Freedom Village Spoken Communion 6:30pm TOPS 7pm Confirmation 7:30pm Handbell	11 11am Spoken Communion 7pm Venture Crew 7:15 pm Council Mtg.	12 10:30am Bible Study 10:30am Sr. Stitches 6pm Adult Choir 7pm Boy Scouts	13 1pm Mission Quilting 7:15 pm Property Mtg.	14 12pm Sr. Grp. Cards 6pm Boy Scout Overnight	15 Breakfast with Santa  2pm Hall Rental
16 8am Worship 9:15 am KLS Sunday School 10:30am Worship/Baptism 1pm Room 11 Rental	17 6:30pm TOPS 7pm Handbell Choir	18 1pm Prayer Shawl 7pm Adventure Crew	19 9:30am Sr. Grp Bingo 10:30 am Bible Study 6pm Adult Choir 7pm Boy Scouts	20 7pm Stephen Ministry	21 12pm Sr. Grp. Cards	22 Breakfast with Santa snow date
23 8am Worship 9:15 am KLS Cross Gen Sunday School/Happy Birthday Jesus Party 10:30am Worship/Baptism 1pm Room 11 Rental	24 Christmas Eve 3pm Worship 7pm Worship	25 	26	27 1pm Mission Quilting	28 12pm Sr. Gr. Cards	29
30 8am Worship 10:30am Worship 1pm Room 11 Rental	31 New Year's Eve 	1 	Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd 107 S. 17th Ave., Coatesville, PA 19320 610-384-2035 www.luthgoodshep.org Office Hours: Mon – Thurs 9:00 -1:00 pm			