

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



April 2022

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

Dated Material 3/30/2022

The Shepherd's Voice

April 2022





4/1	Brody Rubincam	4/19	Harper Tebay
4/3	Ethan Charest		Robert Martz
4/4	Heidi Marcelli		Michael Mentzer
4/5	Pearse McGeehan	4/21	Alexander Gill
	Lisa Verdich		Ivette Castro-Hetzel
	Dominiquitak Odida	4/22	Joshua Panning
	Katie Eagles		Charlotte Mitchell
	Myra Matukaitis		Sally Breuninger
4/8	Xylia Brown	4/23	Jeannette Martz
	Donald Althouse	4/24	Dan Herr
4/9	Roberta McLaughlin		John DiOttavio
4/11	Hayley Bertoni	4/25	Brent Douty
4/12	Hank Panning		Carol Grow
4/13	Lukas Durborow	4/26	Pamela Taylor
4/14	Shane Zaplitny	4/27	Beth Fisher
4/15	Kristin Douty		Agnes Dorley
	Kimberly Wilgis		Chase Eisenhower
4/16	Bill McAdoo		Lansana Fofanah
	Thea Searles	4/28	Dylan Kuhn
	Jennifer Florschutz		Martha Chan
4/17	Carol Bisignaro	4/29	Linkin Wills
	Eli Matukaitis	4/30	Michael Raytik, Jr.



4/1	Betty Lou & Robert Flinn	55 yrs.
4/5	Ron & Debbie Sweigart	47 yrs.
4/11	Reuben & Betty Williams	5 yrs.
4/20	Carole & Dwain Thomas	20 yrs.

We mourn the deaths of:

- James Norton III, March 3, 2022
- Ruth Anderson, March 4, 2022
- Carl Pratt, March 11, 2022

We celebrate the birth of:

Sannele Rose White, daughter of Colleen White and Zachary Sentyz, great granddaughter of Karen & Peter White

We rejoice in the baptism of:

Charlotte Grace Ruggirello, daughter of Kyara & Tyler Ruggierello

Pastor's Page

The pace is picking up. As I write this at the end of March, we are already working on Holy Week and Easter – recruiting worship assistants, working on bulletins, and doing all of the general organizing for these uniquely different worship services. For those of us in the church office, it does not yet feel like Holy Week or Easter, but it also doesn't quite feel like Lent either. The pace is picking up at home too, as my cancer treatment continues, as I am working on the plan for my garden, and as I make summer and vacation plans. We are moving out of winter into spring, which is always a busier season.

Finding balance in our lives is something we always need to work at, and reconsider. How can we do all that we *need* to do, and still have time for what we *want* to do. What do we need to keep doing, or add into our schedules, and what do we need to let go of?

The bottom line is that we need to have time to simply relax and do those things that bring us joy and renewal. This is just as important as doing the "musts" on our To Do lists. But all too often, the time for relaxation and renewal escapes us. Too long without these activities, and we become exhausted, and sometimes, cynical, snappish, cranky, or all three.

Isn't it interesting that God included Sabbath time in the Ten Commandments? In Genesis, God creates the world in six days, and rests on the seventh day. When God gives Moses the Ten Commandments, He commands humans to take a day off out of seven for the purpose of rest, renewal, and to reconnect with God.

I think part of the purpose of a day of Sabbath was to help us make it a habit. Building a habit increases the likelihood that we will continue to do something regularly over the long haul. Did you know that it takes 18 months of doing something consistently for it to become a habit? *BUT* it only takes six weeks of not doing something to break a habit. If you want to reestablish a habit, you are back to the 18 month timeline of doing that one thing consistently before it once again becomes a habit.

What does Sabbath look like? My Mom grew up in a home where Sabbath was very strictly observed. They always went to church on Sunday. All homework had to be completed by Saturday night, or it would remain incomplete on Monday. On Saturday, my grandmother prepared a picnic style lunch and dinner for Sunday. When those meals rolled around on Sunday, all she had to do was put the food on the table. Dishes were rinsed, but not washed until Monday morning. They did not participate in any kind of sports, or watch TV, or listen to the radio. No games were played and no books were read, except the Bible. They did not shop or buy gas on Sunday either. The entire day was dedicated to reconnecting with God and reconnecting to family.

When I was a kid, my mother still had us observe the Sabbath, but in a more open way. Worship was still mandatory, but we could leave the house for church events, like youth events. We still did not do any homework on Sunday (had to be completed by Saturday), but we could watch TV, read books, and play board games. We could also cook dinner and wash the dishes. But overall, the day was meant for worship, down time, family time and rest.

Today, Sabbath looks very different for most families. Grocery stores are full of shoppers and our children and youth's sports teams compete on Sunday's, even in the morning - which makes attending regular worship a challenge.

But what would it take for each of us to carve out Sabbath time? Is it possible to create space for an entire day every week in which the only requirements are worship, rest, renewal, and family? What changes would you need to make? It may be a hard adjustment. It may take time to carve out space in your schedule for an entire day. Yet there are benefits to this work. First, your relationship with God will benefit. Second, you will most likely feel better physically and mentally as a result of the downtime. Third, your relationship with your family will benefit (once everyone gets beyond any objections to the weekly ritual, and begins to experience the time of renewal).

Give it a try. A great time to start is the season of Easter. The 8 weeks of Easter will give you an intentional time to begin to make space for Sabbath. And – if Sunday is absolutely impossible for anything other than worship, you can pick another day of the week for your errand free day of renewal. But I challenge you to try. If you can do this for 8 continuous weeks, you may find yourself surprised at how helpful it is to your mental and physical well being.

In Christ,

Pastor Susan



Maundy Thursday & Good Friday

7 pm

Easter Sunday Services

7:00 am (comparable to current 9 am service)

9:00 am (comparable to current 9 am service)

11:00 am (comparable to current 10:30 am service)

Ladies Wear your Easter HATS!

Ladies, have you ever thought about wearing a hat to church? In the past, it was common to see women wearing hats to church, especially on Easter Sunday. As we celebrate Easter this year, women of the congregation are invited to dress with a little extra flair by wearing an Easter hat! This is just a fun invitation to add a little more festivity to the Festival of Easter!



Financial update -February 2022

Receipts: Total Current Receipts for February 2022 were up (+18.9%) compared to the same period in 2021. Adult Receipts (pledged giving) was up (+9.7%). Other Adult Receipts were down (-1.5%). Hall Donations/Rental Fees were up (+91.5%). Mortgage Receipts were down (-1.5%).

Expenses: Total Current Expenses for February 2022 decreased by (-7.3%) compared to the same period in 2021. Synod, Stewardship, and Finance expenses were up, while most other expenditure categories were down.

Giving

Please remember to continue to give financially to Good Shepherd. We still have to pay the mortgage and other bills. Please continue to give and support our ministries during this time so that our ministries continue and are ready to bounce back once the concern is over. There are two easy ways to give electronically. Go to our website www.luthgoodshep.org, and sign up for electronic giving under the "Giving" tab.

Also, by opening the camera on your smartphone and point it at the QR code below, it will prompt you to open a website and enter a secure payment.

Thrivent Choice Dollars

Are you a member of Thrivent? You may have unused Choice Dollars! Choice Dollars can be designated to Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd. Another great way to keep our ministries going! Check with your Thrivent Representative for more information.



Prayer Chain

Please see changes below!

If you would like the Prayer Chain to pray for your need, contact the church office 610-384-2035, ext 201. We will let the members know and they will pray for you. All prayer requests will be kept completely confidential unless you specify otherwise. Please also consider joining the Prayer Chain.

Thank you to all who are willing to be part of this ministry.



Monthly Pancake Breakfast

Saturday, April 16, 2022

8-10 am

This event is open to the public.

Tell your friends and neighbors.

Join us for pancakes, french toast, bacon, sausage, eggs/omelets made to order, hash browns, dry beef gravy, baked goods, fruit, coffee, tea and juice.

\$9/Adult; \$3/Children; under age 3/free



Social Ministry thanks all members of Good Shepherd

Social Ministry would like to thank all who have been bringing food to stock our Blessing Box. We also receive donations from Olivet Methodist Church, our Boy Scouts, Rosebud's, retired teachers from Friendship Elementary School, Grocery Bargain Market, Coatesville Lion's Club, Bondsville Mill Gardens, and our local neighbors. We have also been blessed to have Thrivent members who have been given monetary grants to buy food directly. Without all of these donations there is no way we could stock the Box. We know that the box is feeding families. In fact we found a note in the box from a woman "...thanking us for helping her family survive".

We want you to know that: we continue to need sources of protein like canned meat, stew, soups, canned ravioli, beefaroni and beans. We also need personal care items like deodorant, shampoo/conditioner, woman's sanitary items, toothpaste etc. Please bring basics like, rice, bread, cereal, pasta, pasta sauce and cereal and bring Chicken Helper, Tuna Helper, instant potatoes and stuffing. Please put your donations into the Blessing Box or on the food tables during open church hours.

GOD is GOOD

The Social Ministry/Evangelism Committee wants to start a new feature in the newsletter called "God is Good!" The idea behind this is that sometimes we forget that even a small act of kindness can make a difference in the world, especially when it seems that all we hear are bad things happening. What we are asking people to do is to submit an anecdote about something kind that they did for someone else (don't be shy) or something that someone did for you! Please submit your story to Kim Tapscott at tapscots@verizon.net, and monthly the committee will choose one or more to share in the newsletter. God is Good all the time and has "angels" everywhere showing his love! Let us rejoice and watch for the good in ourselves and others as we share the good news of God's love! Kim Tapscott, on behalf of the Social Ministry/Evangelism Committee.

Funeral Luncheon Coordinators -

Darlene Hoskins and Ginny Lozinski.

If you are willing to help please contact: Darlene: 484-678-0554 (c); Email: hoskinsd@comcast.net

Ginny: 484-889-8492 (c); 610-384-2312 (h); Email: glozinski@aol.com

Ways in which you can help are: kitchen staff and servers and/or to supply food such as salads, side dishes, desserts, cold beverages. Please prayerfully consider volunteering for this outreach ministry.

Thank you in advance for your help.

GOD is GOOD

"I am a Lorax. (You may remember him from Dr. Seuss's children's book entitled The Lorax). The Lorax spoke for the trees because they could not speak for themselves. I am a Lorax because I speak and advocate for those living with a severe psychotic disorder who cannot currently speak or advocate for themselves.

I've been there. I live with schizoaffective disorder, a serious psychiatric condition with emotional and psychotic aspects. However, I have found a way to manage my symptoms and am working as a certified peer specialist to share the coping skills that worked for me with others who have similarly debilitating conditions.

At the same time, I am a Once-ler. The Once-ler, in the same Dr. Seuss book, held the seed to replant the trees after he destroyed them. He was oblivious to the damage he was causing—he wiped out the trees without a care, for financial gain—until he saw what he had done. But he had kept one seed, so he urged a boy to replant and to undo the damage.

I call myself a Once-ler because I have been silent for too long, and because I am part of a movement that holds the seeds of a new level of social accountability regarding people with serious psychiatric disorders. These seeds represent the hope of an enhanced understanding of people living with such disorders, and of improving society's reactions to them.

I believe that you, the reader, should care because we have come to a point where, if we do not start to care as a society for those living with psychotic disorders, there will be no turning back—and people with real gifts will not be able to contribute to that society. There is an abundance of gifts in individuals who have psychiatric disabilities, among them a very real sensitivity and a compassion that this society needs.

In some indigenous societies, those with mental disorders were seen as shamans and as wise men and women. They gave counsel and were sought out by "normal," or "ordinary," people for their wisdom. This is because those extraordinary shamans had a unique perspective and saw things in a revelatory way that "ordinary" people could not. If we are not careful, our Western culture and society will leave that wisdom behind. All that we will have left is ordinariness. Not only is that boring, it is damning: culturally diverse societies are stronger and more compassionate, and we need that strength and that compassion.

In my short time working with adults with mental health conditions, I have met many individuals who really want to move toward recovery. They want to be seen as "normal," and to be included. Are we going to deny them that because of our prejudices? Or are we going to understand and accept them as they are, with an enhanced level of compassion?

We who are in recovery from severe psychotic disorders are trying hard to make some positive changes in our lives, but we cannot do so without society's support and understanding. Society's denigrating view of us—its disbelief in our ability and chances for recovery and normalcy—does not help. It reinforces a false reality that it is impossible to get better. Who knows how many of us will give up because we sense that society does not believe in our worth or value our potential contributions? I cannot stand by and do nothing about that. We need the hope of a community that can, in some way, include and accept us. Without that hope, we will not be able to share our exceptional gifts and acute sensitivities.

We, as people in recovery, have something to teach "ordinary" people. Do not be afraid of us. We are just like you, only we have extraordinary qualities that can benefit everyone.

Act now! Change your attitudes and you change the narrative. Change your actions, and you change the world." – Jason Tapscott

So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

2 Corinthians 5:17



April 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
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 am-1:00 pm					1	2
3 Wood Church 9am Worship 9am Facebook Live Worship 10:30 am Worship/LIFT	4 7:15pm Bell Choir Rehearsal	5 7pm Praise Band	6 10am Boscov's Travel Presentation 1pm Boscov's Travel Presentation 6pm Lenten Soup Dinner 7pm Lenten Service 7pm Scout Troop 117, Boys	7 7pm Scout Troop 111, Girls 7pm Choir Rehearsal	8	9
10 Palm Sunday 9am Worship 9am Facebook Live Worship 10:30 am Worship/LIFT 6:30pm Confirmation Class 	11 7:15pm Bell Choir Rehearsal	12 7pm Praise Band 7:15 pm Property Meeting	13 7pm Scout Troop 117, Boys	14 Maundy Thursday 7pm Worship Service  7pm Scout Troop 111, Girls	15 Good Friday 7pm Worship Service 	16 8am Pancake Breakfast
17 Easter 7am Worship Service 9am Worship Service 11am Worship Service 	18 Easter Monday Office Closed 7:15pm Bell Choir Rehearsal	19 7pm Praise Band 7:15pm Council Meeting	20 7pm Scout Troop 117, Boys	21 7pm Scout Troop 111, Girls 7pm Choir Rehearsal	22	23
24 9am Worship 9am Facebook Live Worship 10:30am Worship/LIFT 6:30pm Confirmation Class	25 7:15pm Bell Choir Rehearsal	26 7pm Praise Band	27 7pm Scout Troop 117, Boys	28 7pm Scout Troop 111, Girls 7pm Choir Rehearsal	29	30