



The Shepherd's Voice

January, 2019

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church (ELCA), 439 E. Norvell Bryant Hwy., Hernando, FL

Pastor's Page

There is something I have heard every year for as long as I can remember, and it goes something like this: *"Now that it is January and Christmas is over, it is time to get back to normal."*

Wait just a minute - hold on to your hats ... Christmas is not over. It has just begun! Christmas doesn't end because the packages are opened, the parties and dinners are over, the guests have left and the leftovers have all been eaten. We are now in the 12 days of Christmas. The celebration has not ended, it has only just begun. For those of you who do not know, Christmas does not end until Epiphany which takes place on January 6. We continue celebrating the God who became one of us to live amongst us, as the Gospel of John says, *"to dwell among us ... full of Grace and Truth"*. Our God, the one we know in and through Jesus, has come to transform our lives and our world and that this God plans to stay - permanently!



I could go on with this and give you fuller meanings of the Greek and Hebrew words used in that statement, but instead, I would recommend you read a book by C.S. Lewis' titled, *"The Lion, The Witch, and the Wardrobe."* The book has been around for a number of years. It is part of the series titled, *The Chronicles of Narnia*. You might (as an alternative) want to rent the recent movie by the same title. It very closely follows the book. It has been said that this book is perhaps one of the most iconic children's books ever written.

In the story C.S. Lewis tells the tale of four children, the Pevensie children, adventuring into the magical land of Narnia. The story has captured readers for years because C.S. Lewis could invoke the wonder and joy that lay in certain images, like Christmas.

In the story the celebration of Christmas in Narnia is very brief but means a great deal to the story. There is a message in the way the story portrays the Christmas celebration in Narnia. There are actually three lessons we can learn from reading (or watching) Christmas in Narnia.

Remember this: God is Stronger

The story is about Aslan, the Lion (the Jesus figure in the story) who is coming soon and the White Witch (Satan) who seems to have her way whenever she wants. However, things are about to change. There is hope and there is anticipation in the story just as the situation seems so bleak and hope is about to fade. *"Always winter, but never Christmas"* are the words spoken by Mr. Tumnus, a faun in the story, to one of the children (Lucy) in the forest of Narnia. If you think about it to a child, such an idea would be horrifying. No Christmas trees? No Stockings? No presents? This White Witch really is evil!

But then comes an event that points out that very soon changes are coming. This is marked by the arrival of

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Santa Claus (John the Baptist). In his first appearance since the evil queen covered the land in ice and snow, Father Christmas meets the Pevensie children with gifts, and a declaration that warms the heart of every reader, *"She has kept me out for a longtime, but I have gotten in at last. Aslan is on the move!"* The times are changing!

Over the years, many Christians have taken to the idea of the *"War on Christmas"*. We believe that if everyone starts wishing us *"Happy Holidays"* or if we stop calling our decorations *"Christmas ornaments"* that Jesus will somehow disappear. If you learn anything from this scene in *The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe*, it should be that nothing is further from the truth. God is stronger than commercialism, our God is stronger than our fear, and the Holy Spirit will be moving in this season regardless of what people call it.

And remember this: God is Generous

Speaking of Santa Claus, you can't mention Christmas without bringing up the subject of presents. Most fans of Narnia will remember the tools given to the Pevensie children during their quest: a sword and shield for Peter, a bow and horn for Susan, and a small dagger and a magical cordial for Lucy. However, there are a few parts of this scene that often go overlooked. For instance, there are the gifts for Mr. and Mrs. Beaver as well. Mrs. Beaver finally gets her new sewing machine, and Mr. Beaver learns one of his belongings has been repaired – something that makes him jump with joy.

Then comes the tea and biscuits. Tea and biscuits? you may ask. It's a ridiculous concept, but before he leaves, Father Christmas serves the party their afternoon tea. Remember, C.S. Lewis was English – we have to have afternoon tea in the story. As humorous as this scene may be to us, there really is nothing more enjoyable, more satisfying, or heartwarming, than a good meal in the company of friends. Lewis knew this, and I believe this scene was meant to show how simple generosity can restore someone both physically and spiritually. What better time for generosity than at Christmas? A simple gift has the power to open hearts and restore souls. It was only by the generosity of others that a number of us have come to know Jesus at all. Remember to demonstrate God's kindness to others this season, even if it's just with tea and biscuits. You never know how much of a difference you will make in their lives, simply by being God to them.

And always remember this: God is Near

Lewis' final nod to Christmas is written in toward the end of the story. While Peter, Susan, and Lucy are enjoying their time with the Beavers, their brother, Edmund, runs away to join the White Witch. After interrogating Edmund, the Witch decides to apprehend the rest of the Pevensie children herself and sets out with her captive aboard her sleigh. As the two travel across the snowy landscape, Edmund begins to notice that the sleigh is moving slower and slower. Looking around, he realizes the ice and snow are melting.

Grass and flowers are growing again, and other signs of spring have started to manifest themselves. Eventually, the sleigh is unable to move at all and a furious White Witch must acknowledge that Aslan has returned. The season of Christmas is a time for remembrance, but it is also a time to look forward. Jesus' birth, death, and resurrection were only the first chapter in God's great story. Just as Aslan came to thaw a world desperate for his presence, we have a promise that Jesus will one day return and restore us to our proper home when all things will be made new.

These three things that we remember at this time of year, God is stronger, God is generous and God is near, are our words of encouragement that we have for this season of Christmas and for always.

Pastor Dennis



Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

Executive Council Lay Members

As we begin the new year, our new group of Congregation members begin their role as Officers. The current and past Executive Council, which also includes our Pastor, are listed here to remember and honor their commitment to Good Shepherd.

This list was compiled by Dianne Kohm and Angela Busler.

1985

John Marshall
Bill Johnson
Gloria Kropa
Gerrie Schumacher

1986

Chet Driest
Al Schumacher
Mildred Studham
Gene Raubuck

1987

Chet Driest
Al Schumacher
Mildred Studham
Harold Weaver

1988

Roger Dubble
Richard Thorne
Madelyn Hickey
Hal Weaver

1989

Roger Dubble
Stuart Dopp
Elsie Makuch
Warren Ewell

1990

Richard Thorne
Orland Krug
Elsie Makuch
Warren Ewell

1991

Richard Thorne
Donald Young
Artie Locke

Robert Yonke

1992

Donald Young
Gloria Kropa
June Dreger
Richard Middlesworth

1993

Stuart Dopp
Gerri Fallanca
Herb Hoell
Richard Middlesworth/Gerry Schilling

1994

Eugene Falk
Roy Wernlund
Judy Heikkinen
Blanche Hendee

1995

Gene Falk
Roy Wernlund
Judy Heikkinen
Blanche Hendee

1996

Roy Wernlund
Gerri Fallanca
Marian Langlois
Richard Middlesworth

1997

Roy Wernlund
Gerri Fallanca
Marian Langlois
Richard Middlesworth/Blanche Hendee

1998

David Holt
Barbara Murray
Herbert Hoell
Shirley Hebestreit/Jerry Schilling

1999-2000

Eugene Falk
Orland Krug
Herb Hoell
Sally Pyles

2001

Merle Paulsen
Ronald Hoch
James Swenson
William Burkman

2002-2003

Edward Ashby
Ronald Hoch
James Swenson
William Burkman

2004

Edward Ashby/Merle Paulsen/James Swenson
Ronald Hoch
James Swenson
Sally Pyles

2005-2006

Kenneth Swade
Judy Knecht
Betty Marshick
Kathy Swartz

Continued...

2007

Walt Seefeld
Fred Crogle
Maxine Crogle
Kathy Swartz

2010

Sandra Meslow
Jack Wolff
Yvonne Blass
Kathy Swartz

2015

Mike Busler
Gail Sotrines
Dan Cashman
Kathy Swartz

2008

Walt Seefeld
Barbara Fosse
Patricia Guenste
Kathy Swartz

2011-2012

Michael Maksymicz
Vera Thorne
Lenore Deck/Dan Cashman
Kathy Swartz

2016

Mike Busler
Gail Sotrines
Pat Wolff
Kathy Swartz

2009

Sandra Meslow
Denis Jackson
Yvonne Blass
Kathy Swartz

2013-2014

Randy Wagner
Walt Seefeld
Dan Cashman
Kathy Swartz

2017-2018

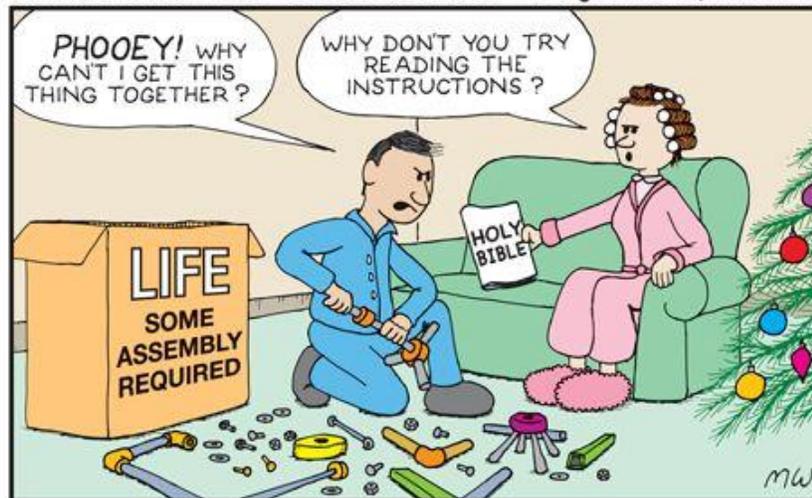
Mike Busler
Gail Sotrines
Dan Cashman
Kathy Swartz

2019

Dan Cashman
Bill Mehnert
Gladys Kean
Kathy Swartz



SOME ASSEMBLY REQUIRED A Joyful 'toon by Mike Waters



www.joyfultoons.com © 2008 Michael D. Waters

Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight. — PROVERBS 3:5-6 NIV



W/ELCA NEWS

The following are highlights from the December Council meeting:

- Pastor Koch will be away the first Sunday in January.
- Chairs have been ordered for Fellowship Hall.
- “Pasta With Pastor” date for 2019 is 19 October, with time change to 5:00 p.m.
- Kathy Swartz gave presentation of Proposed 2019 Budget.
- New organist and music director approved to begin in January.
- Approved purchase of Chimes.
- Approved single service on January 27th, at 9:30 a.m. for Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting and installation of Council members.
- Dates for Executive Committee and Council meetings changed to first and second Thursday respectively, same times as current.



Altar Guild

Altar Guild meeting set for January 17 at 1:00PM. This year's calendar will be set and it will be a chance for updates from our new pastor. Any and all interested people are welcome. We need willing hands to set up before services and cleanup after. Time needed is 1/2 hour to set up on Saturday for first service, about the same to freshen between services and the same or less after second service. Ideally we should have 2 from first service and 2 from second. Many hands make quick work of any job. Usually you work one month a year.

W/ELCA stands for Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. All women members of an ELCA church are automatically members of W/ELCA. In 2018 the lives of many women were enriched by participation in the programs and activities of the women of the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church. In our final event of the year, approximately twenty five women gathered for the Advent Luncheon on December 7. After we enjoyed lunch and fellowship, Stephanie Bell presented an informative program about The Pregnancy and Family Life Center in Inverness. We closed the program by singing some of our favorite Christmas carols.

The congregation gave \$863.00 to the Thankoffering on December 2. The generosity of this church will benefit the ministries and mission of W/ELCA throughout the world.

We begin a new year of service with Soap Sundays on January 20 and 27, 2019. We ask for donations of full sized bars of soap. These will be sent to Lutheran World Relief. On February 5, we invite anyone to join the W/ELCA Board at approximately 11:00 as we pack the LWR Kits and the beautiful quilts you saw on the pews in December.

Save the Date. On March 23, 2019, the women of the Pinelands Conference of the Florida-Bahamas Synod will hold their Spring Gathering at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church. Watch future newsletters for more information about this day of fellowship and worship.

Our board meetings are scheduled on the first Monday of each month at 9:30 am. All women are invited to attend any of our board meetings. The first meeting of the new year will be January 7, 2019.

Anne Storan, W/ELCA President

“Learn to light a candle in the darkest moments of someone's life. Be the light that helps others see.” —Roy T. Bennett

W/ELCA Circles

Mary-Martha Circle

Monday: January 14, 2019 at 9:30am

Bible Study Leader: TBD

Hostesses: TBD

All ladies are welcome to attend!

Ruth-Naomi Circle

Wednesday: January 9, 2019 at 1:00 p.m.

Bible Study Leader: Lisbeth Goetter

Hostess: Judy Teague

Priscilla Circle

Thursday: January 17, 2019 at 1:00 p.m.

Bible Study Leader: TBD

Hostess: TBD

All women are welcome to join us in Bible study and fellowship.



W/ELCA STEWARDSHIP NEWS

SOAP, SOAP, SOAP

Soap Sundays are January 20 and 27 for Lutheran World Relief. Look for receptacle in Fellowship Hall. Only full size soap can be used. These will be packed with kits being sent to Lutheran World Relief in February.

People in many parts of the world cannot buy soap. Soap signals dignity and cleanliness and is used by many schools, hospitals, clinics, households and refugee camps. It helps reduce infection and disease.

Smaller wrapped soaps will be given to SOS for local needs. We are grateful to everyone for your help.

Maggie Bregger
W/ELCA Stewardship Chair

W/ELCA Advent Luncheon

On Friday, December 7, 2018, WELCA (Women of the Evangelical Church in America) hosted the annual Advent Luncheon. Nearly twenty women attended this annual event where they enjoyed a catered lunch and had a unique opportunity to learn about the Pregnancy and Life Care Center, which is a local resource for women who need a variety of services, including parenting education, preparation for mothers, personal finance education classes and adoption services. Additionally this valuable local resource provides clothing, diapers and has a food pantry. Two locations serve those in need in Inverness at 352-344-3030 and Homosassa 352 228-4999. The speaker was Stephanie Bell, the Executive Director. She shared with the audience that the license plates that say "Choose Life" support mothers who participate in the adoption program. Many donations were presented to the director, which will benefit those who visit the Pregnancy and Life Care Center and volunteers are always welcome.



Adult Education

"God Behaving Badly"

A New Class Led by Pastor Barrett

Dash the heads of your enemies' babies against the rocks (Psalms). When you enter the land, destroy their cities and slaughter every living thing—man, woman, and child (Joshua). Try to steady the load and keep the Ark of the

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Covenant from falling off the cart and God will strike you dead (2 Samuel). Mock God's prophet and he may send a pack of she bears to maul you (2 Kings)! A woman who is raped must marry the man who raped her and remain with him until death (Deuteronomy). Your desire shall be for your husband and he will rule over you (Genesis). Parents must take disrespectful children to the city gates where they will be stoned to death (Leviticus). Celebrate your victory by killing your daughter (Judges). Is the God of the Old Testament sexist, racist, and violent? Two things deter Christians from spending much time on the Old Testament. First of all, it has lots of names that we can't pronounce. Then how do we deal with all the blood shedding in the Old Testament, much of it seemingly endorsed or even commanded by God? How did the angry God of the Old Testament morph into the nice guy in the New Testament? Is the Old Testament so disturbing that Christians should avoid it? These are the topics we will discuss in the new class-"God Behaving Badly." It starts January 21 (Monday) at 10am and lasts for six weeks. No book purchase is needed. Just bring your Bible.



Fellowship

Happy New Year! I must begin the year by expressing my appreciation to a great group of women on the Fellowship Committee. They have contributed so much time and energy this past year to make each event successful. **Thank you to:** Margot Berger, Janet Burfeindt, Pam Dionne, Amy Gilbert, Barb Johnson, Barb Lauer, Pat Mainster, Pat Ouwerkerk, and Sauny Williams. The Bereavement Subcommittee includes most of the names above and in addition: Mary Krol, Maggie Bregger, Gladys Kean, Lois Lenhart, Jane Isenstead (consultant). I apologize if I left anyone out. I also appreciate all those who volunteered to help out for the various events. Thank You!

Installation Reception: thank you to Jane Isenstead who used her catering skills to help the Committee. Thank you, thank you. And all those who helped with set up and clean up, we thank you also!

Looking ahead, remember the Tag Sale will be Saturday, March 3, with set up the day before. Start cleaning out your clutter. We will NOT be taking TVs or outdated electronics.

Starting in January, on the first Sunday of the month, there will be a birthday cake at each coffee hour to recognize those having birthdays that month.

Wanted: 1. Men to help at Tag Sale, dishwasher for special events and any other Fellowship activity. 2. More members of the Fellowship Committee. Come check it out on the second Monday of the month at 1:30 PM. New ideas are always welcome.

Peace be with you in 2019

Betty Sanger, Fellowship Chair



Thank You

Linda and I would like to offer a heartfelt thank you to the people of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church for all that you are and all that you do. Words cannot adequately express the thank you that this congregation deserves. This congregation has gone far beyond the call of duty to welcome us to the community. From the very first day when we arrived, and quite a few people came to help us unload moving boxes, to the installation service which took place three weeks later on Sunday, December 16. We have been astounded by the level of commitment of this congregation to host an installation service in mid-December and do it well. We have been blessed to be part this community and we look forward to what the Holy Spirit has in store for the future and our ministry together. So, thank you. The work that you do has not gone unnoticed and is appreciated.

Pastor Dennis & Linda Koch

Winter Music Series 2018-2019

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
439 E Norvell Bryant Hwy
Hernando, FLORIDA 34442



The Churchmen, Gospel Bluegrass

January 25, Friday 6pm

Larry Stephenson Band, Bluegrass

February 15, Friday 7pm

Johny Carlsson & the Florida Dixie Kings' "A Swingin' Mardi Gras"

March 3, Sunday 3pm

Castlebay, Music from Maine and the Celtic lands

March 24, Sunday 2pm

Tickets for each concert are \$10 at the door.

Sponsors:



(352)-527-0015 (352)-341-3515
Hernando, Florida Lecanto, Florida

For Information contact:

Angela Busler, 860-906-8723 (cell), AMBusler@gmail.com



Your help needed

Ushers are needed to serve during the late service each week. If you are able to help, please contact Jack Wolff (560-7386, or Len Martin (527-3589).

LETTERS OF THANKS



I would like to extend my sincere gratitude for allowing me to put up a donation box in the Fellowship Hall. This non-profit organization means a lot to me and with your donations brought in over the past few weeks, I was able to reach my goal of bringing in 20 coats! Thank you again for your donations and allowing me to put a box in your church.

God Bless,

Stovanna Mainella (Elfrieda Romanelli's grand-daughter)



A big thank you for all of the heartfelt cards we received after the passing of our mother, Edy Lindstrom. She loved this church, and had so many wonderful, close friends and relationships that she absolutely cherished.

Rick & Sue Lindstrom

John & Alina Lindstrom

Bob & Cheryl Lindstrom



Memorial and Special Gifts

The following memorial and special gifts were given during the month of December:

- To the Memorial Fund by William Schapers in memory of **Jeanne Kirk**.
- To the Worship & Music Fund by Elfrieda Romanelli in memory of **Jeanne Kirk**.
- To the Memorial Fund by George & Elin Bendtsen in memory of **Jeanne Kirk**.
- To the Worship & Music Fund by the Lindstrom family in memory of **Edy Lindstrom**.
- To the Winter Concert Series by Eric Hahn.

"A New Year's resolution is something that goes in one year and out the other." —unknown

Thrivent Choice Dollars

The following Thrivent Financial for Lutherans members have directed this month's Choice Dollars be given to Good Shepherd:

Linda M. Cashman

Thank you for your gift.



Tips for Holiday Health

Holidays are always exciting and much anticipated times of the year. Unfortunately the joy and anticipation of gathering with friends and family has the effect of interrupting our normal routines. It seems we are always in a rush to get from one event to the next. One of the consequences of a Holiday Rush is that some of our personal needs are unnecessarily neglected. Medicines times may be missed. Meals may be interrupted or missed, Rest periods may be missed and personal hygiene (such as hand washing) may be overlooked.

Nothing can ruin a wonderful Holiday like having to spend 4 or 5 hours in an Emergency Room waiting to be treated for a condition caused by forgetting to take your routine medicine. Similarly, spending several hours in an Emergency Room waiting to be diagnosed with a broken bone you sustained from falling off a ladder while attempting to place "The Angel" on top of your Christmas tree, may also be disappointing.

We all want to make the best use of our time with friends and family. To do this, we must be sure that we are in good health and able to peruse the activities planned. Likewise, you will be less likely to sustain physical injuries such as falls, sprains and

muscle injuries. Colds, Flus and Allergies are always present when groups of people gather together in close proximity. These types of Respiratory conditions can be minimized by avoiding situations where people are sneezing or coughing. If you do catch Cold or the Flu, treat it quickly and avoid spreading it to others.



Grief Recovery

January 19, 2019, at 9:30 am there will be a presentation of Grief Recovery and an overview of the 10-week course entitled *Grief Recovery*. Please feel free to bring friends and neighbors with you to this presentation. No sign-up is required.

Cathy Heaps-Stetson, Licensed Mental Health Counselor has also been Certified in Grief Recovery by The Grief Recovery Institute. She will be the presenter as well as the leader of the course.

The 10-week course begins on Thursday, 1pm-3pm, January 24, 2019, and will continue through March 21, 2019. Please call Cathy at **941-586-5376** by January 21st to sign-up for the class.

Grieving experiences include Death of a Loved One; Divorce; Move or Relocation; Loss or Change of a Job; Death of a Pet; Aging; Loss of Sight or Limb; Change in your Health or that of a loved one; End of any relationship; Major Financial Changes; Graduation; Retirement; and Intangible Losses that include Trust, Faith, Safety, Normalcy, Approval, and Control.



Special dates

- New Year's Day, *January 1, 2019*
- Epiphany, *January 6, 2019*
- Baptism of the Lord, *January 13, 2019*

Continued...

Special dates continued...

- Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, *January 18-25, 2019*
- Martin Luther King Jr. Day, *January 21, 2019*
- The Churchmen Concert, *January 25, 2019, 6PM*
- Single 9:30A Worship, *January 27, 2019*
- Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting, *January 27, 2019*



Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting

January 27, 2019
10:45AM

Single Worship Service
9:30AM



Lessons in wise faith

“The Magi teach us true faith,” said Martin Luther. Given the obstacles they encountered, we would understand if they had given up altogether!

First, the travelers were “off the mark,” coming to Jerusalem to seek a newborn king in a “royal palace.” Then, directed to Bethlehem, the wise men found a sight “so utterly out of keeping with a king” — a poor young woman and child, in a “poor hut” — that one might expect them to head straight home. “But,” declares Luther, “with a great, strong and full faith they ... follow the word of the prophet and the witness of the star in all purity of heart,” bowing to worship and honor the Savior.

—Based on Luther’s sermon for the Festival of the Epiphany (1522), *Luther’s Works*

A prayer for new beginnings

In his book *Awed to Heaven, Rooted in Earth* (Fortress Press), Walter Brueggemann writes in an Epiphany poem:

... this is a time to be born.
So we turn to you, God of our life
God of all our years,
God of our beginning....
We dare pray that you will do for us
and among us and through us
what is needful for our newness.
Give us the power to be receptive,
to take the newness you give....
There is a time to be born, and it is now.
We sense the pangs and groans of your newness.
Come here now in the name of Jesus. Amen.



How fitting that the Epiphany season and the new year coincide! Epiphany reveals a new King, the beginning of his ministry, his new disciples, his first healings, his “new teaching — with authority” (Mark 1:27). We, too, experience newness, now and year-round. But newness can be tough. So we trust that God, who “[makes] all things new” while banishing “mourning and crying and pain” (Revelation 21:4-5), walks with us in this new year — and always.



“All that I am I owe to Jesus Christ, revealed to me in his divine Book.”
—David Livingstone

A Day to Remember

The Installation
of
Pastor Dennis W. Koch



December 16, 2018



Bible Quiz

What did Jesus say brings greater joy in heaven than 99 righteous people?

A. The singing of angels
 B. One sinner who repents
 C. 100 righteous people
 D. None of the above



Answer: (See Luke 15:7.)



Drivers With A Mission

Drivers With a Mission (DWM) needs some additional volunteers to take Good Shepherd members to doctors appointments. They would be needed only occasionally for about two hours of combined travel and appointment time for a member who can no longer drive themselves to their own appointments. Please contact Lynn Bechdolt, DWM Coordinator, at labech@comcast.net or (276)252-2960. If you call, please leave a message and she will get back to you as soon as possible.



Hilltoppers

The Hilltoppers enjoyed a wonderful afternoon of good food, good friends and good fellowship at Charlie's Fish House in Crystal River when we last met in November.

After taking a short break for the Christmas holiday we are anxious to get together again to start the New Year off right. Our next outing will be Friday, January 18th when we will gather at Reds Restaurant in Hernando on SR 200 for lunch.

If you would like to join us, we will carpool from the church at 12:30pm. Don't forget to call Louise Olson at 344-4479 with your reservation.



The Quilting Group

On November 30th seven quilters and two of their husbands put 89 quilts on the pews. Then on December 6th nine quilters removed the quilts and boxed them for shipping. We also finished five quilts. We did not have a sewer, so the quilts were take home by Jeanette W. to sew the edges.

Thank you goes out to all who helped this month and to Wendy W. who brought in three baby blankets which she had made.

We will meet on January 2nd and January 16th to make quilts and pack them for shipping. Please come and join us for fellowship and to help others that are in need of quilts. Bring your lunch; coffee and dessert are provided.

Questions: call Gerry Kauth @ 637-2412.



Craft 'N Share

Come join us on Wednesday, January 23, 2019, from 10 a.m to 2 p.m. or as your time allows. Bring your lunch, beverages and dessert will be provided.

In November, we assembled Christmas gifts for our shut-ins. We filled red plaid pouches with a brown-bag gingerbread man and a reindeer with candy cane antlers plus a card for each.

In January we will continue cutting, sewing and stuffing, teddy bears for CMH. We received

Continued...

Craft "N Share continued...

beautiful baby hats and blanket made by Diane Kittleson which were delivered to CMH. Thanks to Cindy Gaertner for delivering these and teddy bears. Thank you to all our home crafters.

We will assemble pillowcase kits from the many donated pillowcases. We will continue to sew these together. We mailed off a dozen finished dresses to Nancy's Notions for the Little Dresses for Africa project or where needed.

We have patterns for home sewers of pillowcase dress. Also, as a home project we will also continue making baby blankets, either sewn or knit/crochet items and baby hats. We have patterns for anyone who would like to work on these. We also have patterns for knit or crocheting shawls or lap robes. Several ladies like working at home on these projects.

Please note, if you need a shawl or lap robe to deliver to someone who is ill, in rehab or hospital or grieving pick one up. The bins for SHAWLS and LAP ROBES are in the left side of the right hand closet in the rear of fellowship hall, making it easier for you to access them. Please sign the clip board with name of who you deliver too.

JOIN US WEDNESDAY, January 23, from 10 to 2 for a chat while we work. Questions?? Call Maggie at 860-2215.



9th ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

TO BENEFIT S.O.S. (SERVING OUR SAVIOR)
FEEDING MINISTRY
FRIDAY, JANUARY 25, 2019

Last year's 8th annual golf tournament was a huge success! We hosted 120 golfers, 26 sponsors, and raised a net of \$13,000 for S.O.S. (The annual Father Christmas Ball also benefits S.O.S.). What a

worthy cause, to help feed about 130 needy families each Thursday!!

Everything about the tournament will be the same as last year: entrance fee of \$100/golfer, which includes lunch and prizes at Black Diamond Ranch on the famous QUARRY COURSE, starting with registration at 9am and a shotgun start at 10am. There will be a lunch cookout at the turn. The format is 4-golfer scramble.



If you are interested in playing, or being a hole sponsor this year, pick up a brochure in the church narthex, or visit the Shepherd of the Hills website at www.sothec.org. We also need volunteers at the tournament. Call Jim Gilbert at 352-564-0397.

Jim Gilbert,
Chairman



Puzzle!

The 10 words below are spelled correctly but are missing the letter O. Use them to complete the Bible verse below, where you'll find all the missing O's.

S, NE, JHN, ANTHER, GD,
LVED, UGHT, T, ALS, LVE

Dear friends, since _o_ _o_
o _ _ us, we _ _ _ o
o _ _ _ _ _ o _ o _ _
o _ _ _ _ o _ _ _ _ .
1 _ o _ _ 4:11, NIV

Answer: Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. 1 John 4:11, NIV

JANUARY 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 11:30A – AA  OFFICE CLOSED	2 8:00A-SOS 10:00A – Quilters 7:00P –Choir	3 8:30A- SOS  9:00A – Executive Council 12:00P - Pizza	4 7:30A – Workday on Grounds 	5
6 Epiphany 8:30 A – EM Singers 9:45A – Christian Ed	7 9:30A – W/ELCA Board	8 8:00A – Breakfast 9:00A – Pastoral Care 10:30A – Worship & Music 11:00A - Evangelism 11:30A – AA 7:00P – Scouts	9 8:00A-SOS 1:00P – Ruth Naomi 7:00P –Choir	10 8:30A – SOS 	11 7:30A – Workday on Grounds 	12
13 9:45A – Christian Ed W/ELCA Coffee, Tea & Cocoa Sale	14 9:30A Mary Martha 1:30P- Fellowship	15 8:00A-Breakfast 11:30A – AA 7:00P – Scouts	16 8:00A-SOS 7:00P –Choir	17 8:30A- SOS  1:00P – Altar Guild 1:00P - Priscilla 7:00P – Council	18 7:30A – Workday on Grounds  1:00P - Hilltoppers	19
20 9:45A – Christian Ed Newsletter Deadline	21 10:00A – Adult Ed Class 1:30P – Social Ministry 7:00P - Cards MLK Day (Observed)	22 8:00A- Breakfast 10:00A – Christian Edcation 11:30A – AA 7:00P - Scouts	23 8:00A-SOS 10:00A – Craft 'N Share 7:00P –Choir	24 8:30A- SOS  1:00P – Grief Recovery	25 7:30A – Workday on Grounds  9:00A – SOS Golf Tournament 6:00P – The Churchmen Concert	26
27 SINGLE WORSHIP 9:30AM 10:45AM – Semi- Annual Congregational Meeting 2:30P – Life Care Center	28 10:00A – Adult Ed Class	29 8:00A-Breakfast 11:30A – AA 7:00P - Scouts	30 8:00A-SOS 7:00P –Choir	31 8:00A-SOS  1:00P – Grief Recovery		

*Sunday worship is at 8:30am & 11:00am unless otherwise noted.
Each service is followed by coffee hour in the fellowship hall.*

JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES AND BIRTHDAYS



Tom & Betty Berbert
Mike & Maggie Kirkeby

01/08/68
01/17/14



1- Lenore Deck
Cindy Towne

3 - Tom Berbert

6 - Marion McGauran

7 - Connie Adams

11 - Harv Johnson
Dell Peterson

12 - Carol Herbst
Nate Williams

13 - Walter Maidhof

14 - George Bendsten

15 - Jean Lobenthal
Ann Neville

15 - Shirley Storsteen

16- Shirley Maksymicz

17 - Carol Colson
Kenneth Drennen
James Klingerman

18 - Barbara Driest
Francis Stetson

19 - Analiese Heinz
Wesley Heinz

23 - Colleen Garvin
Dorothy Klingerman

25 - Gisela Vos

27 - Gene Yoho
Susan Fowler

29 - Nancy Jo Schroeder

30 - Jim Kauth
Sandra Jernberg

MONTHLY COMMITTEE DUTIES

JANUARY 6, 13, 20, 27

ALTAR & COMMUNION

Eloise Mongardi
Gladys Kean
Pat Wolff

FLOWER DISTRIBUTION

TBD

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sue Fowler
Melissa Gifford
Liz Busler - Aide
Samuel Heinz - Aide
Rebecca Donahue - Aide

MONEY COUNTERS

January 6 & 13 - Louise Olson, Lead
Len & Kay Martin
January 20 & 27 - Tom Klutz, Lead
Jo Ann Clutz
TBD

GREETERS

8:30AM & 11:00AM

January 6 - TBD TBD

January 13 - Norma Engle

January 20 - TBD & TBD

Single 9:30AM Worship

January 27 - Norma Engle & Carol Herbst

ASSISTING MINISTER

8:30AM

11:00AM

January 6

Bob Bonomo

Kathy Hildebrandt

January 13

Ann Neville

Sharon Maxwell

January 20

Walt Seefeld

Vera Swade

January 27- Single 9:30AM Worship

Lisbeth Goetter

CRUCIFER

8:30AM

11:00AM

Dave Bocker

Alma Day

January 27 - Single 9:30AM Worship

Bob Bonomo

USHERS

8:30AM

11:00AM

Dan Cashman, Lead

Gerry Kauth, Lead

Linda Cashman

Nancy Gomes

TBD

Don Schroeder

TBD

Randy Wagner

January 27 - Dan & Linda Cashman

Mike & Angela Busler

NURSERY

8:30AM

11:00AM

Susan Fowler



(Please let the church office know if a name has been removed that should remain on this list, or if a name should be added.)

Let us remember:

- | | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|
| Benefiel, Larry | Hartsfield, Sylvia | Motts, Jack & Louann |
| Boerger, Dave | Hester, Marty | Neville, Bob |
| Breault, Margo | Hoell, Lucille | Nelson, John |
| Britt-Busler, Elizabeth | Johnson, Brad | Orndorff, Wayne |
| Brockschmidt, Fred | Lackner, Barbara | Page-Wood, Jeremy & Esther |
| Dreger-Parsons, June | Maidhof, Helen | Pawelko, Diane |
| Durr, John | McGauran, Marion | Richardson, Janet |
| Fosse, Barbara | Moll, Bob | Wagner, Mary |
| Gingrich, Ed & Lillian | Morelli, Heike | Williams, Sauny & Nate |
| Gramolini, Katherine | Pat Morgan | |
| Hahn, Eric | | |

Those who are shut-in or residing in assisted living homes:

- | | | |
|----------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|
| Gramolini, Katherine | Maksymicz, Mike & | Mandell, Sheila |
| Halstead, Deborah | Shirley | Moll, Bob & Wilma |
| Hehn, Margaret | Maidhof, Walter & Helen | |
| Hickey, Madelyn | Makuch, Elsie | |

All who serve our country in the military:

- | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| Burba, Jake | Johnston-Garcia, Christian | Radosevitch, Eric |
| Ceballos, Jason | Luchay, Alan | Seefeld, Jessica |
| Cwicklinski, C.J. | Martin, Aaron | Springer, Jr., Dennis |
| Day, Kenneth | McCann, Jim | Stroble, Jeramy |
| Fosse, Jr., Paul | Moore, Andy | Swain, Jr., Terry |
| Gaertner, Jerrod | Moore, John | Thomas, Peter Chris |
| Harrington, Bryan | Muchow, Jason | Thompson, David |
| Heikkinen, Jacob | Osborn-Herdman, Christopher | Timpe, Chris |
| Hickman, Richard | Piott, Trenton | Walton, Leslie |
| Holman, Evan | Posa, Codymichael | |
| Jackson, Brad | Radloff, Steven | |

Relatives and Friends:

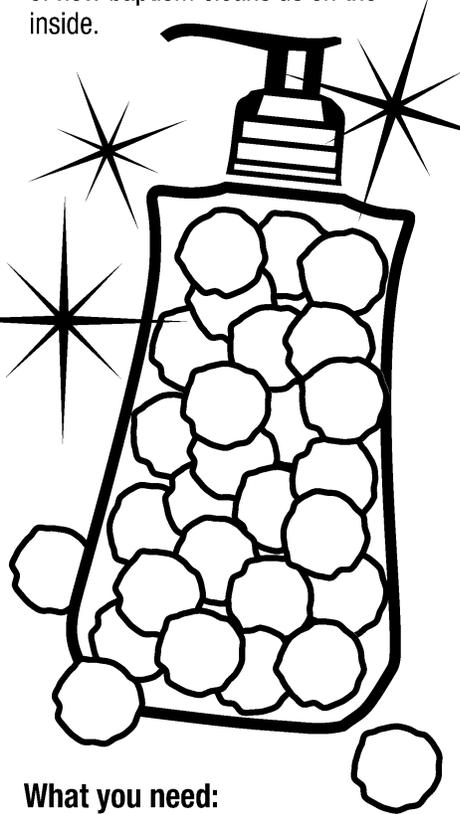
Ailor, Earle	Gradeless, Marge	Rajotte, Keith
Balastieri, Casey	Green, William	Rambaldini, Jim
Bell, Ian	Hanzel, Samantha	Roberts, Rachel
Blyth, Ruby	Hickman, Daryl	Robinson, Deanna
Bonomo, Alyssa	Hunt, Jim	Romanelli, Anthony, Ronnie
Boucher, Phyllis	Jolly, Terry	Schapers, Brant
Brockschmidt, Donna	Kamm, Mike & Nancy	Scheetz, Cathy & family
Brugger, Tristan	Kelly, Nancy	Scheltens, Lynn
Campano, Thomas	Kraft, Carter	Slater, Casstella
Cato, Cecelia	Krol, Peter	Small, Brenda & Steven
Cipollone, Elaine	Lavaja, Jim	Stanley, Dennis
Clarke, Father Peter	Lepley, Joann	Stuart, Neil & family
Clarke, Charlotte	Lewellen, Emily Anne	Taylor, Barbara
Cornell, Owen	Longworth, Kathy	Thurmon, Mary & Chris
Crawford, Cleola	Magri, Antoinette, Steve, & Thomas	Traywick, Edward
Crocker, Adler & Erin	Maidhof, Dexter, Gary	Tuegel, Chuck
DeMartino, Lou	Maidhof, Jeremiah	Turner, Bob
Dille, Jim	Mainster, Roger	Urban, B.J.
Dortin, Rachel	McHugh, Mark	Van Bennekom, Neyda
DuPlane, George	McPhee, John	Van Wyk family
Erickson, Clay	Mock, Beth & Nelson	Walker family
Fowler family	Molina, Michael	Wilder, Gayle
Gaertner, Kent	O'Berry, Darlene	Williams, Dorothy
Garling, John	Oehl, Lita	Wittmann family
Gibboney, Nancy	Orr, Gail	Woods, Donna Jean
Gibson, Jeanné	Pastor Joanie	Wolf, Nick
Gifford, Diane	Pelnar, Barb	Woolley, Carol & family
Glymph, Diane	Price, Jerry	Wright, Matthew
Goetter, Tom, Whitney	Priselac, Lorrie	Wyzard, Joe & Dana
Goforth, Jeffrey	Pulice, Sal	
Goodloe, Ernestine		

*Please take this prayer list, and use it in your private or family devotions in the coming month. You can see that our congregation has a great many people who are in need of our prayers. We will continue to pray for those folks for as long as they need our prayers. However, **please call the church office by the third Sunday of the month to ask that your loved one or friend remain on the prayer list** – otherwise we will joyfully assume that they are well once more, and with thanks to God, remove their names from this list. January, 2019*



Washed Clean

Decorate a soap bottle as a reminder of how baptism cleans us on the inside.



What you need:

- Bottle of clear liquid hand soap
- Small craft pompoms (different colors)
- Wooden skewer

What you do:

1. Remove the bottle label and unscrew the lid.
2. Using the skewer, push pompoms down into the soap one at a time.
3. Replace the lid and put the dispenser in a bathroom or kitchen.



A fresh start

Baptism is a blessing because it changes us and gives us hope.

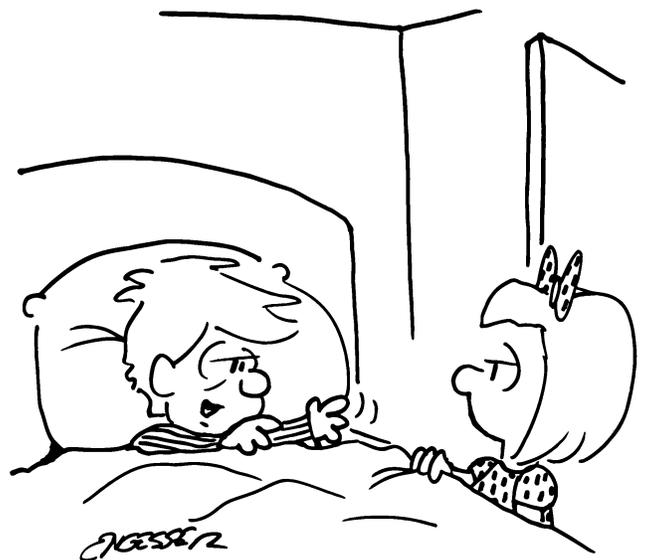
Directions: Write the boxed letters in the squares below. Then unscramble those letters to form two words that complete the Bible verse and represent the gift of baptism.

We were therefore buried with him
 through baptism into death in order that,
 just as Christ was raised from the dead
 through the glory of the Father,
we too may live a _____.

Romans 6:4, NIV

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Answer: f i e l e w n ; new life



"Tell Mom I'll stay home today and do Sunday school online."



God's work. Our hands.

CHURCH STAFF

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E-mail: gschurch@live.com

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Building / Property

Jack Motts 746-3285

Christian Education

Tom Clutz 465-8246

Sue Fowler 464-0571

Enduring Gifts

Bob Bonomo 746-8173

Evangelism

Pat Wolff 560-7386

Fellowship

Betty Sanger 527-1630

Finance

Louise Osborn 746-2405

Mutual Ministry

Mary Krol 270-8316

Pastoral Care

Dave Sotrines 860-1765

Social Ministry

Vera Swade 637-5308

Stewardship

Shelly Fortin 587-7007

Worship & Music

Roger Johnson 746-7321

COUNCIL LIAISONS

Building /Property

Randy Wagner 270-8485

Christian Education

Jack Wolff 560-7386

Christian Education - YOUTH

Pat Ouwerkerk 419-7527

Enduring Gifts

Bill Mehnert 513-4624

Evangelism

Dick Hildebrandt 527-0445

Fellowship

Diane Kittleson 270-8676

Finance

Kathy Swartz 746-5374

Mutual Ministry

Mike Busler 860-906-8234

Pastoral Care

Eric Hahn 344-5575

Social Ministry

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