

THE SHEPHERD'S PIPE

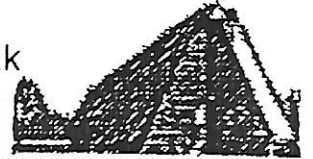
GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH OF NEW CASTLE, PA 16101

GOOD SHEPHERD CHURCH PHONE: 724-654-8246

PASTOR: REV. ELLEN S. LUNDIE CELL PHONE: 412-818-2189

"My sheep hear my
voice and I know them,
and they follow me...
John 10:27

Organist Mrs. Evy Amerson
Secretary & Fin. Sec. Mrs. Barbara Pawlak
Treasurer Mrs. Ruth Johns
Sexton Mr. Grover Welsh



SEPTEMBER 2018



Come &
Worship

Pastor's Message

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,
Pew Research Center recently published results on their survey titled "Why Americans Go (and Don't Go to) Religious Services." The web link is <http://www.pewforum.org/2018/08/01/why-americans-go-to-religious-services/>

The overall trend is that the majority of people who regularly attend religious services identify becoming closer to God as the most important reason they attend. God is the center of our lives of faith and I give thanks to the Holy Spirit's action of drawing people into relationship with God.

As I read the survey I thought of some questions too: How are we, as individuals and a congregation, becoming closer to God? What opportunities do we provide for individuals to grow closer to God? What would be some answers to our survey: Why People Attend (and Don't Attend) Services at Good Shepherd?

We have the opportunity to discuss questions like these as we meet after worship on September 16 to discuss our deficit and financial realities. Please know that this meeting in September is to hear your reactions, thoughts, ideas, worries and hopes. We will meet again on November 18 and January 27, 2019.

Peace, *Pastor Ellen*

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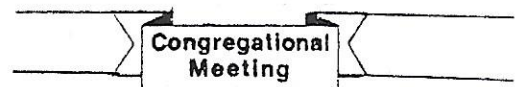
Sunday School Rally Day

Join us for Rally Day, the first day of Sunday School on Sunday, September 9, at 9:15 A.M. Diana Braun will be teaching children in Kindergarten through Grade 6. Sunday School is an important part of faith formation, filled with fun activities, Bible readings and learning each week.

NEW Adult Sunday School Class in the Living Room

SALT-Sharing and Learning Together

You are invited to a new program during Sunday School time beginning on Sunday, September 9, at 9:15 A.M. called Sunday Morning SALT (Sharing and Learning Together). Each Week at SALT, we'll have coffee and conversation mixed with various activities like Bible study, prayer, reflection, and fellowship. SALT is for adults and teens who have completed Confirmation. See Pastor Ellen with any questions.



September 16, after 10:30 a.m. worship. All voices are needed as we discuss Good Shepherd's financial situation. Please join all those who care for and steward Good Shepherd on Sunday, September 16, for a Congregational Meeting after worship.

2 CIRCLES OF PRAYER FOR MISSION

It is extremely important that we the members of our Good Shepherd family bind ourselves together in daily prayer. Please keep this prayer calendar near your breakfast table and remember to pray for these and others....

DAILY PRAYER:

- +For Pastor Ellen Lundie, in her ministry to our congregation.
- +For the entire Good Shepherd family, that we may worship the Lord in Spirit and truth, and grow in our relationship with Him and one another.
- +That the Holy Spirit would soften the hearts and minds of those throughout the United States and beyond who need to come into a living relationship with Jesus Christ as Savior. Ask God to use each Christian to spread the Gospel and share Christ's love.

SUNDAY MORNING PRAYER:

- +For Evy Amerson, pianist/organist; in her ministry of music for our worship.
- +For our Sunday School program, as it begins a new year of opening the minds and hearts of our children, young people, and adults to Christ and who they are in Him on Sept. 10th. Give thanks for our Sunday School teachers: Diana Braun and Pastor Ellen, in their teaching ministries of education.
- +Thank God for congregations that witness to the Good News, invite people to be a part of the Body of Christ, and prepare the next generation of missionary leadership for Christ's Church.

MONDAY MORNING PRAYER:

- +For our local, state, and federal governmental officials, especially for President Donald Trump, his staff, and members of Congress, that they may lead our nation in justice and peace.
- +For courage and strength for Synodical leaders; especially for Bishop Kurt Kusserow and our presiding bishop of the ELCA, Bishop Elizabeth Eaton.

TUESDAY MORNING PRAYER:

- +For our Church Council members in their decision-making for our congregation: Theresa Andrews, Fred DeDominicis, Brian Johns, Curtis Johns, Curt Johns, Linda Marttala, Shirley Mazzocca, Dave Michael, Terri Tankersley, Diana Tervo, Barbara Turk, Grover Welsh.
- +For our congregation's stewardship of personnel and money for mission.

WEDNESDAY MORNING PRAYER:

- +For Kevin Green, Director & staff, and ministries of the City Rescue Mission.
- +For the Inter Church Food Bank of New Castle; the persons who volunteer their services to help, and the needy families in the community being served.
- +For the family and friends of those who died on Sept. 11, 2001, because of the terrorist attacks on the U.S. Pray that the Holy Spirit would comfort them as they remember & relive the event.

THURSDAY MORNING PRAYER:

- +For the Pastor/Pilots of the L.A.M.P. ministry of Canada.
- +For the elderly and shut-ins, and the Meals-on-Wheels staff and volunteers.
- +That peace may shower down upon all people, especially those who live with constant reminders of war, conflict, hunger, poverty & disease. (United Nations International Day of Peace in Sept.)

FRIDAY MORNING PRAYER:

- +For Barbara Pawlak, Church Secretary; Grover Welsh, Sexton; and Ruth Johns, Treasurer.
- +For individuals who have physical, emotional, or spiritual needs, and their families and friends who care for them. For those in Nursing Care facilities and our Home Bound Members: Alba Kessler, Dolores LeComte, Don Michael, Fran Nelson.

SATURDAY MORNING PRAYER:

- +For the people of the Passavant Retirement and Health Center in Zelienople.
- +For God to increase your desire to learn more about the Word so that your vision of God's glory and the possibility of further service to God's people in our everyday life will be expanded.
- +For all children and young people returning to public schools and colleges in September. Pray that God would fill them with a hunger for learning, a desire to serve, and a sense of their participation in God's ministry as they begin this academic year.

PLEASE NOTE!

Our final summer Outdoor Worship Service at the picnic shelter will be held Sunday, September 2, at 10:30 a.m. Please dress comfortably for worship and feel free to bring your own lawn chair. In case of inclement weather, the service will be held in the sanctuary.



FALL BONFIRE NIGHT

Open to all ages! Celebrate the beginning of fall with an evening fellowship around the fire! Join us on Tuesday, September 18, starting at 6:30 p.m., at the picnic shelter for s'mores and fun. Bring a lawn chair if you would like. A sign-up sheet will be in the narthex or call the church office (724-654-8246) to let us know you're attending. If you are able, consider signing up to bring marshmallows, graham crackers, chocolate, or roasting sticks.

BLOOD DRIVE:

Giving blood is a simple thing to do but makes a big difference in the lives of others. Good Shepherd is trying to give back to our community by hosting a blood drive, but we need donors first. The Red Cross now needs 35 people signed up to establish a blood drive here. Ask your friends and coworkers this week so we can see if we can get our number up! Please sign up on the sign up sheet in the narthex!

TRUNK OR TREAT

Mark your calendar for Trunk or Treat. This year, Trunk or Treat will be on Sunday, October 28, from 4-6 p.m. at the Washington Centre parking lot. Volunteers are needed to decorate their car and pass out candy. Let Pastor Ellen know if you'd like to participate.



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INDOOR YARD SALE, BAKE SALE AND SOUP SALE:

Will be held Friday, October 5 and Saturday, October 6th, from 9:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. each day. Donations of clean and gently used items can be dropped off in the Shepherd Center through Thursday, October 4th. We are accepting only children's clothing this year. Volunteers will be needed for setting up tables, sorting, and pricing items Monday through Thursday. Volunteers are needed to make quarts of soup to sale, donate baked goods, and to work in the kitchen serving a light lunch the days of the sales. Sign up sheets for volunteers are available on the white table in the main entrance hall way. Contact Shirley Mazzocca for any questions. (724-654-0966).

Upcoming Dry Soup Mix, Cookie Mix, and Mint Cocoa Mix Sales

Last fall, we filled quart jars and bags with dry ingredients for soup and cookie recipes to support our youth attending the ELCA Youth Gathering in Texas. This fall, we will be using some of last year's recipes and adding new ones and the proceeds will go into Good Shepherd's General Fund. Quart and pint jars and bags will be available for purchase at our **CHURCH YARD SALE** on **October 5 and 6**, and on **ELECTION DAY, November 6**. We will take orders during **November and December**. Orders placed by November 11 will be available to pick up at the church on Sunday, November 18. Orders placed by December 9 will be available for pick up on Sunday, December 16. See Linda Marttala if you need a different pick up date or if you have any questions. Please consider purchasing jars and bags of soup, cookie and mint cocoa mixes for yourself or to give as gifts.

COUNCIL ACTIONS

from Tuesday, August 14th Meeting:

CORRESPONDENCE: 1] We received a thank you from the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America for our \$ 60.00 offering given to ministries in Texas during the ELCA Youth Gathering. Our youth also contributed over \$40.00. 2] We received an announcement about the Rev. Dr. Dave Daubert's upcoming visit to Pittsburgh. He will lead a workshop entitled "Yes, Lord!" Responding to God with My Life. It is open to all members of our synod and will be held at Berkeley Hills Lutheran Church, 517 Sangree Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15237, on September 15, 2018, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Registration has begun and will close on Sept. 6. A fee of \$15.00 per person covers taking an on-line Personal Gifts Inventory, the Workshop, and lunch. See Pastor Lundie or go to www.bhllc.org for more information to register.

CHURCH MATTERS: 1] Our August Mission Project: collected school supplies for the Puerto Rican families who were evacuated after Hurricane Maria and are new members of the New Castle community. 2] Seven of our members and one member of St. John's signed up to donate blood at a blood drive we are trying to hold. Curtis Johns reported that we must have 30 to 35 names of people willing to donate blood before the Red Cross will hold a blood drive at our site. Our building meets all the requirements for a blood drive site. 3] Encourage church members you see in the community to attend our congregational meeting on Sunday, September 16th after our church service.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Fellowship: Our church picnic on Sunday, August 5th, was great!

Christian Education: 1] Sunday School classes for school-aged children will begin on Sunday, Sept. 9, at 9:15 a.m. We are expecting four or more children to enroll in class. 2] We will have at least one student in Confirmation class this year. If Confirmation is not held during the Sunday School hour, Pastor Ellen is consider having coffee and conversation with adults and older youth during this time.

Property: 1] Thank you to those who helped with improving the appearance of the island in front of

the main entrance. It looks great! 2] We are exploring options for preventing birds nesting in the picnic shelter. Using netting would probably be the least expensive option. Thank you to Fred DeDominicis, Barbara Turk, and Carl Turk for preparing the picnic shelter for our outdoor service and church picnic on August 5th.

WORSHIP: 1] Our worship service on September 2nd will be held outdoors at the picnic shelter.

Vision: All are welcome to attend our next VISION Committee meeting on Wednesday, September 5th at 6:45 p.m.

PASTOR'S REPORT: 1] First Bible Story Day on July 15, 3 young members attended. 2] Trunk or Treat planning has started.

OLD BUSINESS: 1] We continue to explore getting bids for work on our Soffit & Fascia 2] We have been approved for a Thrivent Action Team grant to help support our Yard Sale/Soup Sale/Dry Cookie Mix and Dry Soup Mix in Jars Sale on October 5 & 6. If you would like to donate cloth to decorate the tops of the jar mixes, the smallest size we can use is 7 inches by 7 inches. Please contact Linda Marttala to donate cloth, pint jars, or quart jars.

NEW BUSINESS: 1] Guidance from Synod Staff: *Establish a second meeting each month. *Focus on Bible Study and prayer: Pray through our record book, starting with the mostly recently added names. *After we've prayed through the list once, each member of Council should take 2 names and call those people, saying we are meeting next month and wondering how we can for them. *Meeting Date: September 25th, at 7:00 p.m. 2] Pastor Peter Asplin, Assistant to the Bishop, will attend our September 11th Church Council meeting.

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS: Sept. 2 (outdoors, intinction)- ShirleyMazzocca; Sept.9-Fred DeDominicis; Sept. 16--Brian Johns; Sept. 23--Grover Welsh; Sept. 30-Curtis Johns.

YOUTH GROUP

Beginning in October, the Youth Group will meet on the first Sunday of the month. See you on October 7!

Birthdays & Anniversaries

BEST WISHES ON YOUR SPECIAL DAY IN SEPTEMBER:

Happy Birthday!

- September 1 - Liliana DeRiggi
Leroy Ransom
Donald Suorsa
- September 2 - Tyson Hicks
- September 3 - Adam McCurdyr
- September 6 - Jamie Roberts
- September 7 - Kenneth Braho Jr.
Natalie Beaver
- September 8 - Frank Bruno
- September 9 - Pastor Ellen Lundie
- September 10 - Stefanie Leonard
- September 12 - Lisa Medved
Marci Mrozek
- September 13 - Taylor Davis
Barbara Pawlak
Eli Turk
- September 16 - Stephen Kline
- September 18 - Tyler Braho
Amber Davis
Amy Rice
- September 19 - Lisa Turk Nelson
- September 20 - Brian Johns
Alba Kessler
- September 21 - Dakota Hicks
Marcia Lane
Lauren DeRiggi
- September 22 - Astor Westrick
- September 24 - Luke Johns
Kirstan Tervo
David Morrison
- September 26 - John W. Mrozek
- September 27 - Lee Michael
Barbara Turk
- September 30 - Curtis Johns (father)
Betsy Read
Hailey Tammaro

Happy Anniversary!

- Sept. 4 - Donald & Irene Fracul
Richard & Viola Ratvasky
- Sept. 5 - Frank J. & Megan Augustine
- Sept. 14 - James & Carol Roberts
- Sept. 16 - Lee & Debra Michael
Edward & Bria Westrick
- Sept. 17 - Curtis & Ruth Johns

- Sept. 19 - John & Frances Nelson
- Sept. 20 - Tyson & Nancie Hicks
- Sept. 24 - Frank & Kimberly Augustine
Christopher & Michonda Weber
- Sept. 26 - Douglas & Helen Iorio

Harvest time!

With Harvest underway or imminent, fields of ripe grain, tall cornstalks and soybeans turning brown recall Jesus' words to the disciples. "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest" (Matthew 9:37-38, ESV).

Nowadays farmers use few laborers and bigger machines than in decades past. But what about harvests of faith? Leading people to know God's love can't be done "mechanically." Studies show that newspaper ads or door-hangers left anonymously are less effective at bringing people to church than a warm personal invite.

Right after urging his disciples to pray for harvest workers -- in a classic instance of "You might be God's answer to your own prayer!" -- Jesus sends them out as those very laborers! How will they work the harvest? Not by guiltting people into faith. Not by pronouncing judgment or biblical law. But by using Jesus' authority to counter evil, illness and brokenness among those they befriend.

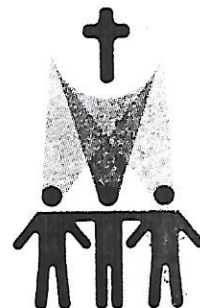
Ponder and pray about where Jesus is sending you as his laborer to cultivate and reap Christian faith and assurance of God's love.



The role of a lifetime

We grow up when we see our life and our role from God's perspective; when we thank God for the role he has assigned us and begin to see our cup as a gift instead of a cross; when each morning we ask, "God, how can I glorify you today in my given role?"

--Linda Dillow, *Calm My Anxious Heart*





A legacy of faith

Grateful for Grandparents

National Grandparents Day became an official observance in 1978, thanks largely to the lobbying efforts of Marian McQuade, a West Virginian who had 15 children and 43 grandchildren during 60 years of marriage.

The purpose of National Grandparents Day, celebrated on the first Sunday after Labor Day, is threefold: to honor grandparents, to give grandparents an opportunity to show love for their children's children and to help children become aware of strength, information and guidance older people can offer.

Grandparents -- and, in this mobile society, surrogate grandparents -- also serve as examples of how to endure challenges with God's help. Elders describe how God remains present, faithful and steadfast throughout the years. As Psalm 145:4 (NIV) says, "One generation commends our works to another; they tell of your mighty acts."

NEXT VISION MEETING

Join the Vision Committee at their meeting on Wednesday, September 5th, at 6:45p.m.

Report for August Worship Services

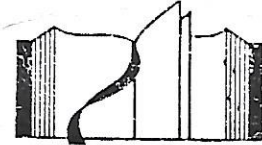
<u>Sunday</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Offerings</u>
5	31	\$1,830.50
12	26	\$3,249.50
19	25	\$1,837.76
26	47	\$2,553.00

Total Offerings for AUGUST \$9,470.76*

*Total Offerings includes giving to Special funds. Also, \$1,895.00 were memorials for Sara Augustine that were put in the General Fund in August.

To meet our 2018 budget we need to receive \$2,788 in General Fund offerings per week or \$11,152.00 total for August. In August we had a total of \$9,113.50 in offerings to the General Fund = (minus) - \$2,038.50.

--Barbara Pawlak, Financial Secretary



Daily Discipleship Bible Study

The Daily Discipleship Bible Study meets on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month at 11:00 a.m. in the library with Pastor Ellen.

In September, Bible Study will meet Tuesdays, September 11th and 25th at 11:00 a.m. in the library.

GOOD SHEPHERD IS ON FACEBOOK.
Check us out and Like Us!

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
2323 OLD BUTLER ROAD
NEW CASTLE, PA 16101