



The Shepherd's Pipe



Volume 52, Issue 9

September 2021

Council Meetings

We would like to remind you that meetings are open to anyone who is interested in joining us. If you would like to be included, please call the church office and leave a message to let us know. **This month's council meeting will be on Tuesday, September 14th at 7:00 pm.**

Help Recording Services

We are currently in the process of upgrading our video and audio services but we are in need of helpers at each service to turn on/off the computer, cameras, etc. If you are interested in helping or know someone who is, please contact the church office and leave a message for K'rin.

Altar Flowers

If you are interested in purchasing a vase, the cost is now **\$20**. We apologize for the increase in price, however, we were not informed by Butz until we received our bill. There is a sign-up sheet for July-October available in the hallway or you may also call the church office and leave a message with the date and the message you would like printed in the bulletin.

September Mission Project

Our current mission project for the month of August is collecting donations for the Women's Shelter.

Additions to Newsletter

Do you have something to publish in The Shepherd's Pipe? Please have any submissions into the church office by Monday, September 20th.

Pop Can Collection

Money has been collected from donated aluminum cans and metals since July 2019 by Fred DeDominicis. Donations were made by Harold & Doris Laderer, Carl & Barb Turk, John & Fran Nelson, Fred & Darlene DeDominicis, Shirley Mazzocca, and other members, neighbors, and friends. The total collected is \$346.78 and will be added to the Roof Fund

Best Wishes on Your Special Day to our Members and Friends of GSLC:

Happy Birthday!

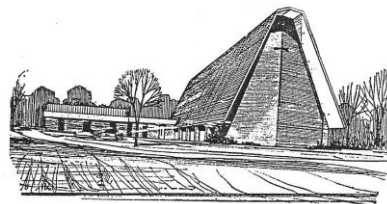
- 1 – Liliana DeRiggi
Donald Suorsa
- 2 – Tyson Hicks
- 3 – Adam McCurdy
- 7 – Natalie Beaver
- 8 – Frank Bruno
- 10 – Stefanie Leonard
- 12 – Lisa Medved
Marcy Mrozek
- 13 – Taylor Davis
Barbara Pawlak
Eli Turk
- 18 – Amber Davis
- 19 – Lisa Turk Nelson
- 20 – Brian Johns
- 21 – Dakota Hicks
Marcia Lane
Lauren DeRiggi
- 22 – Astor Westrick
- 24 – Luke Johns
Kirstan Tervo
- 26 – John Mrozek
- 27 – Lee Michael
Barbara Turk
- 30 – Curtis Johns
Hailey Tammaro

Happy Anniversary!

- 4 – Donald and Irene Fracul
Richard and Viola Ratvasky
- 5 – Frank J. and Megan Augustine
- 16 – Lee and Debra Michael
Edward and Bria Westrick
- 17 – Curtis and Ruth Johns
- 19 – John and Frances Nelson
- 20 – Tyson and Nancie Hicks
- 24 – Frank and Kimberly Augustine
Christopher and Michonda Weber

Our Mission

We, the congregation of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, New Castle, Pennsylvania, are called by God, baptized into Christ Jesus, and empowered by the Holy Spirit. Because of God's great love shown us in the gift of his Son, we are bound together in love. Therefore, we make disciples of Jesus Christ through teaching, worshipping, witnessing, and serving.



Good Shepherd Lutheran Church of New Castle

Cancelled Stamp Collection

The goal is to support the Lutheran World Relief "Stamporee" project, which provided for shipping of gifts, kits and clothing to those in need around the world. Anyone can contribute by saving used envelopes having cancelled stamps on them. When trimming stamps from the envelopes, remember to allow at least ¼" or more around each edge of the stamp. If not, they are discarded. All stamps are accepted; however, Commemorative stamps are worth more. Ask friends, relatives or co-workers to participate in this worth while project. The stamp collection box is on the counter in church library.

Please Reach Out

We are asking you to please pray for, send a Thinking of You card, or contact our current homebound members:

Metzger, Bertha
Haven Convalescent Home
725 Paul Street
New Castle, PA 16101

Nelson, John W. & Frances
724-658-2579
1810 Morris St.
New Castle, PA 16102

Suorsa, Donald & Beth
724-654-9063
724-944-4982 cell
796 Eastbrook-Harlansburg Rd.
New Castle, PA 16101

Devotional Resources

Good Shepherd has pocket size copies of *Portals of Prayer* available on the information rack by the steps leading to the balcony. *Portals of Prayer* is also available electronically on Kindle and iBooks. Apps are also available for Apple and Android. Note that all these options require a subscription. Some other resources that you might be interested in:

- *Our Daily Bread* - Apps are available or you can sign up on-line for a daily e-mail at <https://odb.org/> — This is a free resource.
- A daily Bible verse can be sent to you from DailyVerses.net — You can sign-up for this to be e-mailed to you or you can find them on Facebook and Twitter. This is a free resource.
- <https://www.biblegateway.com/> — Bible Gateway is another free resource where you can look-up bible verses from a variety of translations. If you create an account, you can also sign-up for delivery of a verse of the Day or for a number of devotionals, including a 40 day Journey with Dietrich Bonhoeffer, a daily passage from the writings of C.S. Lewis, as well as a number of other devotionals geared toward men, women, or families and many others. You can see a listing at <https://www.biblegateway.com/devotionals/>

** Portals of Prayer are now available for July through September. If you would like a copy, please call the church office and let K'rin know.

No Live Streaming

On the following Sundays, we will not be live streaming. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause, however, we are only able to offer live streaming when we have volunteers available:

September 26

If you are able to help with any of the dates above, please call the church office and let us know!

Thank You

Dear Church Family -
Thank you for your generosity!
We have seen God do amazing
things at RYR this year!
We are changing hearts, planting
seeds & watching God give the
increase! Thank you for
supporting us!
Love -
Michelle



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

MISSION SUPPORT 2020

[THANK YOU]

To the members of
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
New Castle
from the
Southwestern Pennsylvania Synod

of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.
In grateful appreciation for giving

\$ 1,362

for Mission Support beyond the congregation for synod and
churchwide ministries of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

Synod Bishop
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Presiding Bishop
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Congratulations!

Congratulations are in order for the birth of Dax Nathaniel Leonard. Dax was born on August 4, 2021 at 7:25 pm. He weighed 7 lbs. 4 oz. and was 19 ¾' long. Proud parents are Stefanie and Brian Leonard. Grandparents are Dominick and Terri Lombardo. Great grandma is Bertha Metzger. Dax joins his siblings Jace and Vail at home.

Treasurer's Notes Continued:

Since I have written to you, many good works have continued to happen here at Good Shepherd, even during a pandemic. Items that were collected have been delivered to Shenango Schools and money has been donated to Lutherlyn and Ready Yourselves Youth Ranch. (Just a reminder, we are collecting monetary donations this month for the Crisis Shelter.) In August, council voted to donate \$1,005 to synodical causes -- \$335 to Haiti, \$335 to Madagascar and \$335 to Western Wildfire Relief. Due to the \$1,281.04 made by having a yard sale, we were also able to make a donation to Meals on Wheels for \$128 and put aside the rest into our Building Fund. So far, our second PPP loan forgiveness application that was submitted to the bank in August has been approved by the bank and has been submitted by the bank to the Small Business Association, the division of the federal government handling the PPP loans. We are waiting for the SBA'S final forgiveness to be given for the \$10,376 we received in February. Hard working members of the congregation have enabled this increased income flow and mission work to continue on your behalf. Hard working members have also completed the cleaning of the church from last year's fire.

As you know, a lack of annual income to support a full-time pastor over the past years has led us to a seminarian for a year and an interim pastor since. At September's meeting, council will be discussing with Pastor Asplin from the Bishop's office our options for our future here at Good Shepherd. With our working and attending numbers low, it would be advantageous to have everyone who is interested in this topic to take an hour or two of their time to attend September's council meeting by Zoom to share your opinion. Where do you see Good Shepherd in the future? This opportunity is vital to your role as a member or a friend of Good Shepherd. Council already knows our options and we have conveyed them in the past to you as well. Council needs at this time your input as to what you see in the future for Good Shepherd. If you do not have the technology to attend by Zoom, please contact the pastor or a council member to share your thoughts and ideas.

Council's decision will also be based on the fact that we need to replace the church's entire roof and the heating system in the sanctuary. As good stewards of the church's money, council has to continue to make hard decisions and would like all of you to be a part of this discussion.

Council will be meeting September 14th at 7PM. As it is advertised every month in the newsletter, if you would like to attend, the Zoom link to the meeting will be available by calling the church office to ask for the link. Due to Zoom security measures, the link cannot be published prior to the meeting. Thank you for your understanding and hope to see you there.

Ruth

Upcoming Sermon Series: A Biblical Way to Handle Conflict

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ: Our lord and Savior Jesus Christ dwells within and among us. Since, among other titles, he is the Prince of Peace; The Peacemaker between God and humans. Since He is our Peace. Since he proclaimed Peace, and continues to proclaim the Gospel of Peace through us, his Church. And because He said that those who work at making peace shall have the Blessing of being called Sons/Daughters of God...So we could say that it is "natural" for us who benefit from the Peace that God has made with us to extend that Peace to others, especially to the fellow members of our congregation. But because of the challenges of the world, the flesh, and the devil, conflict happens and we forget whose we are and deal with conflict as if Jesus were Not involved...as if we have to either avoid it at all costs or we

have to attack the other guy...as if we were more concerned with our own Glory than God's! But there is a Better, God-Honoring, Neighbor-Blessing, and Christ-like Character-Building Way! And that is what this sermon-series will be about: learning to use the Resources of God's Grace available to EACH ONE OF US!

Sept. 5: Step 3: Gently Restore: How can I lovingly serve others by helping them take responsibility for their contribution to this conflict?

Sept. 19: Step 4: Go and Be Reconciled: How can i demonstrate the forgiveness of God and encourage a reasonable solution to this conflict?

Based on "The Peacemaker: A Biblical Guide to Resolving Personal Conflict"
by Ken Sande (Peacemakerministries.org)

Council Highlights – Meeting held August 17, 2021

- This meeting was held virtually via Zoom and also in person.
- These minutes will be approved at the September Council Meeting.

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

- We have applied for PPP forgiveness.
- We have not paid Slippery Rock Roofing because the roof is still leaking. Fred and Chuck will speak with Slippery Rock Roofing to see if they can fix the roof.
- Fred took items from the yard sale to recycling and received \$12 for it.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- We received a thank you note from Ready Yourself Youth Ranch and Lutherlyn.
- We received a request for money for our sister synod in Madagascar from the ELCA Synod.
- Fred DeDominicus made the motion to send \$335 to Madagascar Relief Fund, \$335 for devastation in Haiti, and \$335 for the United States Western Fire Relief. Shirley Mazzocca seconded. The motion carried.

CHURCH MATTERS:

- We will continue to livestream the service on Facebook Live. We will also be posting the bulletin on Facebook for people to follow along with. We are still in search of someone to handle the technology for live streaming service.
- Shirley Mazzocca made the motion to have another yard sale and soup/bake sale on October 23, 2021. Jodi Tammaro seconded. The motion carried.
- Pastor Asplin plans to attend our September council meeting to discuss the future of the church.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND YOUTH GROUP:

- Diana Braun is willing to teach Sunday School this year if anyone is interested.

FELLOWSHIP:

- We had a church picnic on Sunday, August 15th. It was a wonderful time of fellowship!

WORSHIP:

- Shirley Mazzocca made the motion to change our mask policy to wearing a mask for the entire duration of the service (including before and after). Jodi Tammaro seconded. The motion carried. We will keep watching the COVID-19 numbers in Lawrence County.

PROPERTY:

- The light at the entrance of the church has storm damage. Fred will look into this further.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Diana Braun and Shirley Mazzocca are going to take the donations we collected to Shenango School district.

Circles of Prayer for Mission

Please pray for the members of Good Shepherd:

Daily Prayer

- ❖ 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.
- ❖ We pray for our interim, Pastor Wil Goetze, as he shepherds us with his many talents.

Sunday Prayer

- ❖ For Evy Amerson, pianist/organist; in her ministry of music for our worship.
- ❖ Gracious God, all people are united in your mercy. Help us to see and understand our kinship in you and to celebrate together in worship.

Monday Prayer

- ❖ For our local, state and federal government officials, especially for President Joe Biden, his staff and members of Congress, that they may lead our nation in justice and peace.
- ❖ For courage and strength for Synodical leaders, especially Bishop Kurt Kusserow and our presiding bishop of the ELCA, Bishop Elizabeth Eaton.
- ❖ For an increase in ministry workers, both rostered leaders and lay, allowing God's church to grow, sharing the faith, and encouragement to those who are new to faith.

Tuesday Prayer

- ❖ For our Church Council members in their decision making for our congregation: Fred DeDominicis, Ruth Johns, Terri Lombardo, Linda Marttala, Shirley Mazzocca, Hailey Tammaro, Terri Tankersley, Jodi Tammaro, Michonda Weber, and Grover Welsh.
- ❖ Give thanks to God for ELCA members who share joyfully God-given blessings through stewardship of their resources of time, skills and money.

Wednesday Prayer

- ❖ For Kevin Green, Director, his staff and ministries of the City Rescue Mission.
- ❖ God of many blessings, we give thanks for giving us life. We praise you for the call to mission with which you continue to draw us out of ourselves and into relationship with others.

Thursday Prayer

- ❖ For the Pastor/Pilots of LAMP ministry of Canada.
- ❖ For the elderly and homebound and the Meals On Wheels staff and volunteers.
- ❖ Almighty God, we give thanks for the earth you have created and all its living things. Help us appreciate the love you give and remember continued thankfulness for your goodness.

Friday Prayer

- ❖ For Grover Welsh, Sexton, Ruth Johns, Treasurer, Terri Tankersley, Financial Secretary, Hailey Tammaro, Youth Group Leader, and K'rin Fortuna, Secretary.
- ❖ For individuals who have physical, emotional, or spiritual needs and their families and friends who care for them. For our homebound members and their caregivers: Alba Kessler, Fran Nelson, Don Suorsa, and Bertha Metzger.

Saturday Prayer

- ❖ For the people of the Passavant Retirement and Health Center in Zelenople.
- ❖ Give thanks for the time, talents, prayers, and funds that are donated to the ELCA Disaster Response which enable the ELCA to feed the hungry, clothe the naked and bring the Good News to those who are suffering.

