

THE ECHO

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

876 Grove Street, Conneaut, OH 44030
440 599-8908

Mission Statement

We are a Christian community united in God's call to serve others by proclaiming, celebrating, inviting, and sharing Christ's Love.

Purpose Statement

"God's Word, Our Mission"

FEBRUARY 2017

HOLY COMMUNION CELEBRATED EACH SERVICE

8:30 A.M. CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP

9:45 A.M. SUNDAY SCHOOL

11:00 A.M. TRADITIONAL WORSHIP

Nursery Available for those up to age 5

FEBRUARY 5 FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

**FEBRUARY 12 SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY
MISSION SUNDAY**

**Capital Campaign Offerings
and Food Pantry Donations**

CONGREGATION MEETING to approve annual reports

FEBRUARY 19 SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

FEBRUARY 26 TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD

**PLEASE SHARE THE INFORMATION OF YOUR UPCOMING EVENTS
EMAIL THE CHURCH OFFICE goodshepherd@suite224.net
THE MARCH ECHO DEADLINE IS FEBRUARY 20.**

TREASURER'S REPORT DECEMBER, 2016

GENERAL FUND - BALANCE AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2016

\$ 8,258

MONTH	INCOME	YEAR TO DATE	% ESTIMATED OPERATING		YEAR TO DATE	% ESTIMATED OPERATING	
			COST	EXPENSE		COST	EXPENSE
January	\$ 16,306	\$ 16,306	83.6%	\$ 19,208	\$ 19,208	98.4%	
February	\$ 14,246	\$ 30,552	78.3%	\$ 18,842	\$ 38,050	97.5%	
March	\$ 19,615	\$ 50,167	85.7%	\$ 15,012	\$ 53,062	90.6%	
April	\$ 17,619	\$ 67,786	86.8%	\$ 19,772	\$ 72,834	93.3%	
May	\$ 17,617	\$ 85,403	87.5%	\$ 17,439	\$ 90,273	92.5%	
June	\$ 15,434	\$ 100,837	86.1%	\$ 16,634	\$ 06,907	91.3%	
July	\$ 14,385	\$ 115,222	84.4%	\$ 15,006	\$121,913	89.3%	
August	\$ 17,054	\$ 132,276	84.7%	\$ 19,353	\$ 41,266	90.5%	
September	\$ 15,532	\$ 147,828	84.2%	\$ 16,245	\$157,511	89.7%	
October	\$ 15,808	\$ 163,636	83.9%	\$ 19,305	\$176,816	90.6%	
November	\$ 18,128	\$ 181,764	84.7%	\$ 17,017	\$193,833	90.3%	
December	\$ 20,575	\$ 202,339	86.4%	\$ 16,967	\$210,800	90.0%	

LOGO CONTEST

Evangelism team is holding a "logo" contest. The contest is to create a logo that depicts the church and its mission. The winning logo will be used on business cards, signs, flyers, tri-fold and welcome packets. Designs may be submitted to the church office. Entries need to be in by February 19. Winner will be announced February 26. For further information, contact Michelle Logan.

8TH GRADE CONFIRMATION STUDENTS

Special meetings will be held from 6:00 to 8:00 pm the following dates:

February 13

March 13

April 10

May 15

June 4th is Pentecost Sunday and Confirmation.

Contact Rae Van De Motter or any questions
216-633-6362

Pastor's Page February 2017

Grace and peace to you from God our Father in heaven and Our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

The New Year has begun and it is quite a year: the 500th anniversary of the reformation. 500 years ago on October 31st Martin Luther posted the 95 theses. There is still some debate whether posting means nailing them on the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg, or actually posting them like any other letter through the mail service of the time. Certainly “the nailing them on the church door” would be more dramatic and we will stick with that until it is proven otherwise. What can't be disputed is that Martin Luther wrote 95 theses in order to debate the use of indulgences used in the Roman Catholic Church at the time.

The great thing was that there was a new form of communication at the time that enabled one to mass produce pamphlets and books. It was called the movable type printing press. With this device Martin Luther was able to revolutionize the art of getting an idea out in the minds of the people.

I was told that Martin Luther posted the 95 theses in Latin which was the language of the universities and the church. Some of his students were able to translate the theses into German and took them to the press. The rest is history with however many hiccups along the way it took for the idea of the reformation to take hold and flourish. Here we are now, five hundred years later, people of his namesake, who can do nothing on their own, but rely on the grace of God to help and save us.

There will be some changes in the service of worship that you may or may not recognize. These changes will be reminders of where we come from and how we came to be where we are today. Most of these changes will be directly from Luther's Small Catechism as a reminder of our baptism and our upbringing in the church.

This Lenten season we will also be sharing with other Lutheran churches in the area. A round robin preaching schedule will be centered on the Small Catechism. We will host a different pastor each Wednesday of Lent. This means that your pastor (that would be me) will be in four different churches during the season: Messiah in Ashtabula, St. Paul in Jefferson, Trinity in Madison, along with Good Shepherd in Conneaut. Please enjoy your time with Pastors Fred Grimm (St. Paul, Jefferson), Dave Anderson (retired), Brandi Hacker (Trinity, Madison), and Mike Meranda (Messiah, Ashtabula) who will be bringing the good news to you this Lenten Season.

May God bless your time during this special anniversary year and may God bless you richly with God's grace.

Blessings of Peace in Christ's Name

Pastor Patrick J. Van De Motter

FEBRUARY 26

Attention all 7th through 12th Grade Youth!!



Tubing at Mount Pleasant \$13

Leaving GSLC at 12:30 PM and returning by 5:30 PM. Permission slips and payment due prior to departure!

Bring own money for lunch or snacks.

ADULT DRIVERS NEEDED!!

Thoughts from a Confirmation Student By Rae Ann Wright

Never tell a young person that anything cannot be done. Some dreams may seem impossible, but with hard work and dedication, those impossible things can happen. To every impossible problem there is a solution.

One of the impossible things that I have done is completing all the church homework, but with some hard work, time and help of my mother, I have completed it and it feels great.



Upcoming Events

February 4th Sub assembly party!! 10am All kids who sold subs encouraged to participate !! Ice cream party to follow!!

February 5th Pick up all sub orders today!! (At GSLC)

February 12th 2 pm Bowling Party at El Camp Lanes

February 19th 5:30 pm Movie: "The Incredibles"

February 26th 12:30 pm Tubing for 7th thru 12th grade youth

March 12th 5:30pm Movie Night: "The Secret Life of Pets"

April 9th 5:30 pm Movie Night: "Storks"



A Moment In Faith
By Richard P. Tulino, A Layman's Interpretation

Matthew 5:14-16
This Little Light Of Mine

“You are the light of the world. A city located on a hill can't be hidden. Neither do you light a lamp, and put it under a measuring basket, but on a stand; and it shines to all who are in the house. Even so, let your light shine before men; that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven.”

Scripture teaches that God created us in his image. We're born in the image of God to reflect God's glory. The beauty of God's holiness—God's perfect light—dwells within us all. You may not think you have a lot to offer, but you do. God has instilled in each of us the light of his grace and love. Whether yours is a search light, a flood light, or a 40-watt bulb, you are called to rise above the crowd and stand up for Christ and let your light shine, so that others may see the way that leads to salvation.

Think of that light bulb, it burns, but doesn't put out much light. That's because it's covered with a thick layer of dust. As you grow in faith a layer is washed away, making the light shine more brightly. In our Christian faith, that layer of dust keeping the light of Christ from shining brightly is our sinful nature. We're the ones holding Christ back, we're the ones standing in the way, and the truth is we do it by choice. The more we give in to our sinful nature and follow the crowd, the more dust accumulates on our light bulb and blocks the light of Christ within us. There becomes less difference between us and the darkness of the world around us.

The Good News is, the more we say no to sin and turn to God, the brighter the light of Christ shines within us, and the more we are able to block the forces of evil and wash away that dust from of light bulb so that we are able to let the light of Christ shine in us in such a way that when others see our good works, they will give glory to God. It is up to us to let “this little light of mine” to shine brightly and block the darkness and bring a glimmer of hope to the world around us. John says it best in John 1:5, “The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness hasn't overcome it.”

A prayer for you all is this, Gracious God, you've entrusted your Word to us and filled us with your spirit. The world is so dark, and, at times we feel so powerless to do anything about it. Strengthen our witness and give us courage, that we may be a shining example of your grace and love, for we ask it in the name of your son Jesus Christ our lord. Amen.

A Thrivent Message from Shirley Harco:

I have had several people ask about Thrivent and how we have the Action Teams. Jeff Shinaberry has agreed to come and host an informational meeting and then individual meetings for those folks who want more information.



What is Thrivent? Several years ago, several of our members were a part of Lutheran Brotherhood where Lutherans could get life insurance and other investments. It is now part of Thrivent Financial.

Thrivent is a not-for-profit fraternal benefit society of Christians. Since it is tax exempt, the money that would have been paid out in taxes is instead used for Thrivent outreach. This is where members get their money for action teams and also receive choice dollars that can be directed to the church.

You do not have to invest large amounts of money. Any investments will qualify for these benefits.

You will be eligible for 2-\$250 action team dollars each year for our church as well as "choice dollars."

We have done many projects with our Thrivent dollars. Some of the things are:

- Two years in a row, we purchased jogging pants, underwear, sox, and jackets for children at Lakeshore Primary
- used money to help with our perch dinner
- helped to provide money for our floats
- helped purchase gifts for our Christmas families
- got pans for our steam tables and other items needed for the kitchen
- enabled the quilters to buy batting and backing for the quilts

These are just a few of our projects.

More news will follow next month.

Nisua bakers will be back in the kitchen March 4.
Contact Phyllis Waid, Heidi Parkomaki
or the church office.
Cost is \$5.00 per loaf

*Future date: April 8



For the safety of our members, we are no longer putting dates on birthdays or anniversaries.



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Maggie Boyle

Dianne Young

Sonny Heinonen

Matthew Van Epps

Rylan Carroll

Harper Lampela

Jim Monday

Heidi Parkomaki

Bradley Gauvin

Claire Monday

Charles Anthony

Esther Bly

Emma Van Norman

Delores Griggs

Lydia Jerina

Cindy Nelson

Linda Laine

Morgan Owens

Sophia Poff

Jailyn Anderson

Jeff Griggs

Kaylee Tyson

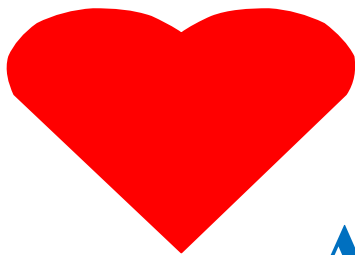
Jessica Van Epps

Mary Steighner

Shirley Brookhouser

David Nolan

Stacy Racut



FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

Chris ♥ Sam Lampela Jim ♥ Betty Monday

Michael ♥ Kathy Mills Jim ♥ Robin Bryant

Sonny ♥ Linda Heinonen, Jr.



Recent visitors
How many did you greet?

Kimberly Bell, Cleveland OH
Kathy Cook
Paul Cole
Margaret L. Douglas,
Katriina Emery
Ray Haas, Van Wert, OH
Adalyn Maxey, Van Wert, OH
George Lindgren
Tamara Matlock
Judy Pew
Brooklyne Phillips
Gary & Karen Randall
Gary & Mary Smith
Shelby Smith
John, Beth, Chloe Thompson
Maribeth Tan & Camaron Sorrell, Baltimore, MD
Allison C. Tan, Baltimore, MD
Olivia Sorrell, Baltimore, MD
Lana & LilyRose Vargo



1ST HOLY COMMUNION CLASSES
12:15 pm on the following Sundays
Mar. 5: Introduction
Mar. 12: Book work & begin work on chalice
Mar. 19: Review book & complete chalice
Mar. 26: Complete book & make bread
Apr. 2: Make-up class
Apr. 9: Will receive 1st Holy Communion
at the 11:00 service.

ATTENDANCE	
Jan. 1	85
Jan. 9	150
Jan. 15	131
Jan. 24	166



Dear Members of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church:

Thank you!!

Thank you to each of you for your Christmas generosity. Rae and I have been so blessed by the people of this church! Whether you sent a card, wished us blessings this holiday, baked some cookies or left a gift – we thank you.

May God bless all of us this New Year!

Pastor and Rae

From Christmas Families,

We received many cards of thanks for the congregation's generosity in making their Christmas so special. They were overwhelmed with the gifts and food received. Everything was very much appreciated. They also thank you for all your support and prayers for them. Your kindness made this holiday season easier for all of them and will always be remembered.



The dinner theater this year is scheduled for April 1 and will be a Mystery Dinner. Look for further information in next month's echo.



A “Prayer Quilt” is in the narthex to place individual prayers in the pockets of the quilt to be prayed over



Children may bring up their coin offering and place it into the mouth of **Reptar the Dinosaur** during the offertory time.



Bible Study Wednesday at 6 pm.

FEBRUARY

If you are unable to serve,
please contact someone to serve in your place!

SECURING THE CHURCH

Feb 5 Nancy Guthrie
Feb 12 Jerry Lampela
Feb 19 Mark Lytle
Feb 26 Mary Steighner

8:30 WORSHIP STEWARDS

DATE	ASSISTING MINISTERS	COMMUNION ASSISTANTS	READERS	ACOLYTES	USHERS	GREETERS	HOSPITALITY
Feb 5	Richard Tulino	Mike Malys	Tim Moga Hannah Tallbacka	Sofi Thompson	Suzanne Malys Nyla Lindgren	Pam Howland Gary Howland	Pam Deemer Joanne Seavey
Feb 12	Pam Howland	Richard Kantola	Mike Malys Brandon Vidmar	Luke Patriarco	Amy & Leah Gallagher	Patriarco Family	Susan Chapin
Feb 19	Mike Malys	Linda Hall	John Chapin RaeAnn Wright	Lydia Jerina	Pam Howland Gary Howland	Pew Family	Nyla Lindgren Jan Uveges
Feb 26	Richard Tulino	Pam Howland	Amy Gallagher Taylor Racut	Grace Patriarco	Ron & Janet Maenpaa	John & Sue Chapin	Pearl Ann Curtis

ALTAR GUILD

Pearl Ann Curtis
Pat Haas
Heidi Parkomaki
Phyllis Waid

11:00 WORSHIP STEWARDS

DATE	ASSISTING MINISTERS	COMMUNION ASSISTANTS	READERS	ACOLYTES	USHERS	GREETERS	HOSPITALITY	NURSERY
Feb 5	Shirley Harco	Andy Chiodo	Rochelle Carpenter Nickolas Mason	Ben Owens Emma Van Norman	Craig & Natalie Huya	Andy Chiodo	Mandy Wright	Kris Cameron Annie Vendetti
Feb 12	Phyllis Waid	Jerry Brookhouser	Al Gee Madeline Owens	Kataya Sweeney Emily McQueeney	Faye Lampela	Al & Ellen Gee	Pat Laughlin	Tina Beagle Sara Bowers
Feb 19	Nancy Guthrie	Paul Mechling	Jennie Hutchison Alyssa Ogelsby	Hannah Tallbacka Jasmine Steighner	Stacy Racut Kimberly Chiodo	Vendetti Family	Betty Cline	Mary & Jasmine Steighner
Feb 26	Andy Chiodo	Karla Tallbacka	Shirley Harco Heather Farr	Taylor Racut Madeline Owens	Shirley Harco Peggy Harco	Marsha Taylor	Martha Jayne & Dave Thompson	Alison & Brielle Hathy

FEBRUARY 2017

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

			1 9:30 Villa Bible Study 6:00 Bible Study	2 6:00 Weight Watchers	3 OFFICE CLOSED	4 10:00 Sub Assembly
5 8:30 Contemporary Service 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Traditional Service 1:30 Villa Worship	6 5:15 Genesis Bells 6:00 Chancel Choir 7:00 Bell Choir 6:45 Girl Scouts	7 9:00 Quilting Ministry 9:00 "3M" Ministry	8 1:30 Social Ministry at County Home 6:00 Bible Study	9 6:00 Weight Watchers	10 OFFICE CLOSED	11
12 Mission Moment MISSION SUNDAY 8:30 Contemporary Service 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Traditional Service CONGREGATION MEETING 2 pm YOUTH BOWLING	13 5:15 Genesis Bells 6:00 Chancel Choir 7:00 Bell Choir 6-8 pm Confirmation Mtg Parents of 8th graders	14 9:00 Quilting Ministry 9:00 Men's Breakfast at Angela's 6:00 All Committees	15 6:00 Bible Study	16 5:45 Finance Meeting 6:00 Weight Watchers	17 OFFICE CLOSED	18
19 8:30 Contemporary Service 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Traditional Service 5:30 Movie "The Incredibles"	20 ECHO ARTICLES DUE 5:15 Genesis Bells 6:00 Chancel Choir 7:00 Bell Choir 6:45 Girl Scouts	21 9:00 Quilting Ministry 9:00 "3M" Ministry 5:30 Executive Meeting 6:30 Council Meeting	22 6:00 Bible Study	23 6:00 Weight Watchers	24 OFFICE CLOSED	25
26 8:30 Contemporary Service 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Traditional Service 12:30 Tubing	27 5:15 Genesis Bells 6:00 Chancel Choir 7:00 Bell Choir	28 9:00 Quilting Ministry 9:00 "3M" Ministry				