



Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

ECHO the love of Christ

**We are a Christian community united in God's call
to serve others by sharing the love of Christ.**

A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

JANUARY 2022



A Message from the President

Year 2021: Two Giant Steps Forward / Count Your Blessings

One year ago, I wrote that the year 2020 was one in which practically no one was sorry to see it come to an end. Our community, our country, and most of the world were in the tight grip of the COVID-19 pandemic. Hundreds of thousands of people in the United States died from it and the country was mired in a sharp recession brought on by the lock-down of our economy. Life was anything but normal; most school classrooms were closed to in-person learning, many restaurants and barber shops/hair salons could not open their doors, and employers either had people work from home (where possible) or shut down their businesses altogether. Some businesses did not survive and individual financial hardship was widespread. On top of that we at Good Shepherd were without a pastor. Last year at this time we did not have any prospective candidates on the horizon and the situation was not looking very promising. Our outlook in early 2021 was rather bleak.

Then came **the first good news**; scientists at Pfizer, Moderna, and Johnson & Johnson developed COVID vaccines in record time. Prior to those breakthroughs we were told that a vaccine may not be possible at all for this virus and, even if one could be discovered, it could take well over a year to develop and test in clinical trials before it could be administered to the public. In other words, it would take a miracle to be ready any sooner. But that 'miracle' did come true. My wife and I (and probably many of you) received our first and second shots in March and April. The impossible had happened! True, the vaccines are not 100% effective but for most people they greatly reduced both the infection rate and the severity of the disease.

That being said, we are not home safe by any means. All indications are that this disease will be with us for the foreseeable future. Currently, much of the country is experiencing a surge in COVID infections, largely among the unvaccinated. In 2021 we had several of our members contract the disease but most survived it. The cases ranged from mild symptoms to lengthy hospitalizations with some nasty, lingering side-effects. The best way to protect yourself and others is to get vaccinated, if it is safe for you, and avoid contact with infected people.

Life in our community has returned to somewhat normal; our church is open for two in-person worship services each Sunday, the YMCA is holding exercise classes in Fellowship Hall Mon.-Wed.-Fri, there is line dancing Thursdays, and yoga on Friday. Restaurants, movie theaters, stores, libraries, factories, and offices are open and begging for workers. **Be thankful and count your blessings!**

The Call Committee's search for a new pastor was not going so well for the first three-quarters of the year. It did interview two potential candidates but determined that neither was the right fit for Good Shepherd. Then, **the second good news** came rather unexpectedly. A new graduate from Trinity Seminary expressed an interest in

serving a congregation in northeast Ohio. An in-person interview was arranged and within days the committee voted unanimously to recommend **Joshua Krenz** to the congregation. On November 21 our members voted overwhelmingly to extend a call to Josh, he accepted, and began his ministry on December 6. Wow, how quickly our fortunes changed! **Be thankful and count your blessings!**

Thank You Pastors Dave Anderson and Steve Fisher

When Pastor Patrick Van De Motter retired at the end of September, 2020, I quickly learned that there were no interim pastors available in northeast Ohio or northwest Pennsylvania. Even supply pastors were hard to come by. Then, to our rescue, came the two best supply pastors we could have asked for. Dave Anderson of Ashtabula and Steve Fisher of Perry, both retired after long and distinguished pastoral careers, each agreed to lead us in worship services two Sundays a month. They were absolutely wonderful in all respects. When we closed the church to in-person worship, they came on Saturday mornings to tape the service so it would be available to view Sunday mornings. On Christmas Eve 2020 we had the service broadcast live to car radios in the church parking lot. Ashes on Ash Wednesday were received in a 'drive-thru' manner under the carport. In the summer we resumed two in-person worship services; the 8:30 outside and the 10:30 inside. Both of them adjusted to our traditions as if they had been here all along. And, most importantly, they gave life to God's Word in some of the best sermons we have ever heard. We were truly blessed to have them in our midst for fourteen months while we searched for a new pastor. We will be forever grateful for their ministry.

Congregation Meeting January 23, 2022 after the 11:00 Service

We will hold an in-person congregation meeting on January 23 after the 11:00 worship service. The agenda, at this time, is;

1. To vote on the 2022 budget.
2. To vote on the church council nominees.
3. A discussion and potential vote on our duplex rental house at 448-450 Sandusky Street.
4. Other potential business.

In regard to the Sandusky Street property, church council has authorized a thorough electrical inspection by a licensed electrician to determine what work will be necessary to make that electrical system safe and in compliance with the code. The house was built in 1915 and much of the wiring is believed to be original and may not be capable of meeting the electrical needs of modern-day appliances. At this time, we are not certain we will have the electrician's report by January 23. In addition, we are planning to replace all windows (also original) and floor coverings. If we do have all the information available, we will share it with you and have a full discussion so you are well informed to make a decision. The vote will determine whether or not to authorize the improvements or to sell the property. This issue must come before the congregation because the total cost of the improvements exceeds council's spending limit. If we vote to approve the work, all expenses will be paid from the Capital Improvement Endowment Fund.






God's Blessings,

Mark Lytle

Council President

Good Shepherd Ministries

All committees meet the second Tuesday of the month at 6:00 PM
(For more information about our church ministries please call the church office)

Evangelism	Property	Social Ministry	Worship & Music	Christian Education
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Outreach Fishes & Loaves Promote Events Maintain Website Family Events D-Day Parking Back to School Rally Support Other Committees 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain building and grounds Care for church rental properties Men's Maintenance Ministry (3 M's) is a group of men who meet every Tuesday at 9:00 am for social time and to work on the maintenance of the church. Support Other Committees 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tree of Warmth Cooks for Christ Holy Communion Home Visits Card Ministry BINGO at Ashtabula County Home Nisua Bakers Turkey Box Quilting Funeral Ministry Support Other Committees 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Special Music Ushers Assisting Ministers Altar Guild Abiding Memorial Pastoral Support Acolytes Greeters Readers Communion Assistants Support Other Committees 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sunday School Classes 9:45 am Preschool thru High School September thru May  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acolyte Training First Holy Communion Confirmation Vacation Bible School Youth Sunday Mission Trips Support Other Committees

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

876 Grove Street
Conneaut, OH 44030
440-599-8908 / www.gslcc.org

Worship Times

Sunday 8:30 Contemporary
Sunday 11:00 Traditional
Holy Communion at all services
Sunday School 9:45

Office Hours

Monday-Thursday – 9:00 am to 2:00 pm

Pastoral Staff

Rev. Joshua Krenz, Pastor
jkrenztl@gmail.com

Office Staff

Clarissa Murtha, Secretary/Financial Secretary
goodshepherd@gwcmail.net

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Contents

Section I – Monthly Features.....	1
Section II – Upcoming Events	7
Section III – Volunteer Opportunities.....	9
Section IV – Updates, News & Stories	10
Section V – Schedules	13



The deadline for ECHO articles is the **20th of every month.** Articles/notices received after the 20th will be saved for the following month. Submissions can be emailed to Kelly Anthony at klanthony@gwcmail.net.

A Moment in Faith

By Richard Tulino, a Layman's Interpretation



New Year and New Beginnings

Our Advent journey is over and now we look forward to a New Year and new beginnings. Do you like beginnings? I've come to realize lately that I like beginnings better than endings. For instance take the Cleveland Browns. I like the beginning of the game but by the fourth quarter I know I won't like the ending.

I like the start of the New Year because it's like a painter's canvas. I like the fact that it's new and that it holds a lot of possibilities of things to come in the New Year. But maybe on second thought, it might have something to do with the fact that last year has come to an end, and all the mistakes that I made last year will be part of history and I simply erase them. New beginnings are like that, the old is gone and the new has come.

The New Year coming is a time of new beginnings. Some of us will start diets, some of us will start school, or a new job, and others will be looking forward to retirement. Still others might be starting more difficult chapters of life. You might be starting life over as a single person because of death or divorce. You might be starting the new year unemployed, or as a person with a serious illness. Just remember, none of us start the New Year alone. If you believe in Jesus Christ and the promises He makes to us, to be with us always, you will not be alone.

In a world of darkness Jesus brings us light. Jesus promises us life. In a world where the past often haunts us, Jesus chooses to forgive the past and promises us a future full of blessings and grace. That's what God chooses to do for us; He gives us a New Beginning. When Jesus comes again, He will restore all things by His creative powers. When Jesus comes again, He will be the bright star of creation in a whole new way. He will make everything new again. What a glorious day that will be! Jesus, making all things new, He will shine brightly as the star of His New Creation. I can't wait, how about you?

Happy New Year

January Birthdays



Robert Beagle
Tina Beagle
Gail Burlingham
Kris Cameron
Sydney Carpenter
Chase Carpenter

Wes Combs
Alison Hathy
Andrea Kapalin
John Montagano
Mark Owens
Emily Pew

James Poff
Joseph Reed
Carol Silis
Deborah Sturtevant
Beth Vendetti
RaeAnn Wright



GENERAL FUND BALANCE AS OF NOVEMBER 30, 2021

\$33,544

						%
						ESTIMATED
MONTH	OFFERING	YTD	%ESTIMATE	EXPENSE	YEAR TO	OPERATING
	INCOME	INCOME	BUDGETED		DATE	COST
			REVENUE			
January	\$ 10,037	\$ 10,037	63.0%	\$ 7,322	\$ 7,322	45.5%
February	\$ 16,125	\$ 26,162	80.5%	\$ 7,445	\$ 14,766	45.1%
March	\$ 13,387	\$ 39,549	81.3%	\$ 11,194	\$ 25,961	54.0%
April	\$ 11,288	\$ 50,837	77.3%	\$ 9,566	\$ 35,527	56.3%
May	\$ 9,665	\$ 60,502	74.4%	\$ 6,554	\$ 42,081	49.8%
June	\$ 14,412	\$ 74,914	77.3%	\$ 10,853	\$ 52,934	53.2%
July	\$ 9,497	\$ 84,411	75.0%	\$ 7,479	\$ 60,413	52.7%
August	\$ 12,566	\$ 96,977	75.7%	\$ 10,342	\$ 70,756	54.0%
September	\$ 9,989	\$106,966	74.4%	\$ 11,157	\$ 105,899	72.6%
October	\$ 10,006	\$116,972	73.4%	\$ 9,571	\$ 115,470	71.5%
November	\$ 12,727	\$129,699	74.1%	\$ 12,548	\$ 128,017	71.4%



ATTENDANCE

11/28 60
12/5 71
12/12 91
12/19 88



To initiate a prayer on the prayer chain for someone, call **Nancy Sackett (440-265-2477)**.

If you know of someone who is hospitalized, sick or needs a visit, please call the church office **(440-599-8908)** so that a visit can be arranged.



Memorial Candle



Our Sponsors

Date	In Honor/Memory of	Given by
Bulletins:		
January 2		
January 9		
January 16		
January 23		
January 30		
Flowers:		
January 2		
January 9		
January 16	Memory of Joy Dittler	Laura Gustafson
January 23		
January 30		
Memorial Candle:		
January	Joy Dittler & Derek Gustafson	Laura Gustafson

Opportunities are available to sponsor the monthly altar candle and weekly bulletins and flowers to remember or honor your loved ones.

FLOWERS

Cost is \$35 for each Sunday. Sign up poster is in the gathering space. You may also call the office to sign up for a certain Sunday and mail your check to the office. Flowers can be picked up after the 10:30 service or in the office on the Monday following the date picked.

MEMORIAL CANDLE

Cost (by month) is \$5 for each Sunday. Sign up poster is in the gathering space. You may also call the office to sign up for a certain Sunday and mail your check to the office.

BULLETINS

Cost is \$10 for each Sunday. Sign up poster is in the gathering space. You may also call the office to sign up for a certain Sunday and mail your check to the office.

You may contact the church office by phone or email: (440) 599-8908, goodshepherd@gwcmail.net

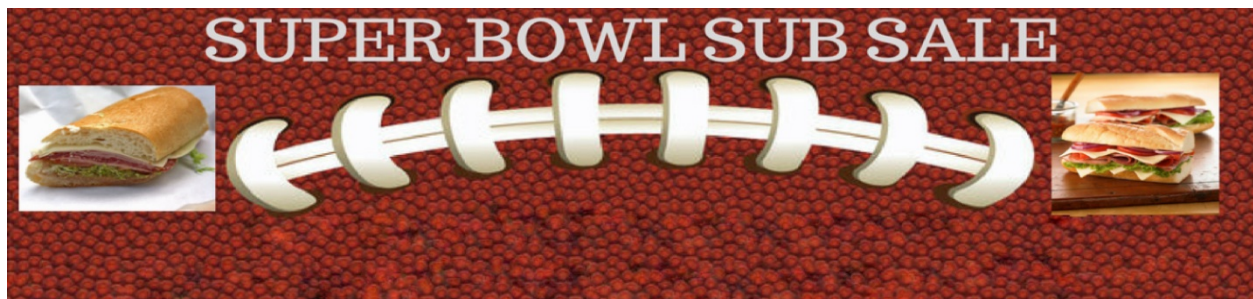
UPCOMING EVENTS

Congregational Meeting

January 23

After 11:00 Service

- To vote on the 2022 budget.
- To vote on the church council nominees.
- A discussion and potential vote on our duplex rental house at 448-450 Sandusky Street.
- Other potential business.



The annual Super Bowl Sub Sale is back! Orders will be taken until Sunday, **February 6**; pickup on **February 13**. The price is \$5.00.



Order Your Nisua

Saturday, March 5, will be the next nisua bake! Sign up by Sunday, **February 27**, with for pickup at noon on Saturday, March 5. Suzanne Malys at the 8:30 worship service, Chris Murtha at the 11:00 worship, or call the church office at (440) 599-8908 during the week. Cost is \$5 per loaf. Your ordered nisua will be available

Fishes & Loaves



Ministry

Free lunches will be offered 11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Saturdays beginning January 8. Enter from the Detroit Street drive and pull up under the portico. Lunches will be delivered to the driver of the vehicles. Everyone should remain in their vehicles.



Free Community Dinner



Our free community dinners resume January 22. This month's meal will include sloppy joes, corn bread, coleslaw, chips and desserts. Those able to bake cookies for this meal, please contact either Michelle Logan or Stephanie Patriarco.



Have news, updates, or an upcoming event to share with the congregation?

Your story can go here!

Information for future editions of the ECHO can be submitted to Kelly Anthony,
klanthony@gwcmail.net.



Become a Cover Girl!

The Cover Girls quilting group is seeking new members!
We especially need those who can help with the sewing.

Please join us on Tuesdays at 9:00 a.m.

For more information, contact Shirley Harco, (440) 594-3873.



Donations are requested for Nick's Closet

This ministry provides household and personal hygiene items (anything except food) for those in need, serving 20-25 families each Saturday. Items can be brought to the church. Donations of cash or Thrivent cards are also appreciated; please just indicate what the donation is for. Suggested items to donate include:

- paper products—toilet paper, paper towels, paper plates, napkins, Kleenex, etc.
- household items—laundry soap, dryer sheets, cleaning products
- hygiene items—shampoo, conditioner, body soap, body wash, deodorant, feminine products, body lotion, combs, brushes, shaving cream, single blade razors



News & Updates

Thank You!

To the good people at Good Shepherd,

THANK YOU for the opportunity to lead worship and preach during the last fourteen months. It was a privilege. Good Shepherd is filled with servant leaders who love both the congregation and the community.

Thank you also for the generous gift! What a surprise! It is truly appreciated!!!

God bless you as you begin your ministry with Pastor Krenz.

Dave Anderson

Dear Members of Good Shepherd,

These past 14 months have been challenging times for you all as a congregation and the Church at large as we tried to deal with the struggles before us.

It was a delight for me to be with you through this time. Mark, Stephanie, and our recording experts made the challenges of sharing the Word in this time of Covid much easier. Their organization helped us avoid many glitches. Sharing the pulpit with Pastor Dave certainly helped my schedule from becoming overbearing. And many thanks to you for the kind Christmas card and gift you shared with me!

My best to you all as you begin your time with Pastor Josh. Finding a "new normal" as the pandemic continues is a challenge for all; but I trust our guiding Savior will be with you all as you move forward! You are a strong church and together you can accomplish much!

Many blessings!

Pastor Steve

Committee News

Call Committee

Pastor Joshua Krenz

By now we all know Pastor Joshua Krenz started with his first day in the church office on Monday, December 06, 2021. The week before was a whirlwind of activity trying to get the pastor's office space into a suitable condition. After a good cleaning, attempts were made to get the current computers up and running and an office phone for our new pastor. Thanks to Dan Patriarco for his computer expertise and figuring out a work around to be able to get pastor set up and running. We also discovered the phone "jacks" in pastor's office had been deactivated. Great Wave Communications was notified to reconnect all the phone "jacks" in the church that were deactivated. Due to a shortage of employees out with illness, Great Wave was not able to get to the needs at GSLC until first thing Thursday, December 9. Thank you goes out to Jerry Lampela for meeting with the Great Wave Communications technician at the church and making sure all available phone connections were reactivated.

Pastor started his day by unloading his totally packed car filled with boxes of books and documents, as well as some personal office items. He moved in using a "dolly" that had flat tires, making the transition a little difficult. Nothing really seemed to frustrate Pastor that morning as he began this settling in process. Pastor jumped right into getting busy understanding his office and unpacking those boxes. Since we live close to the church you could see pastor was burning some late-night oil at the church from day one!

Pastor attended 3M's (Men's Maintenance Ministry), quilting, a concert at Conneaut High School, ate his dinners at local restaurants, attended nisua baking, met members of Conneaut City Council, said the invocation at a Conneaut City Council meeting, met the editor of The Conneaut Courier and set up an interview, gave an interview for Sunrise Live with Jim and gave a taped interview for Around the Town with Chuck that is scheduled to air on Conneaut Cable channel 6 the week of January 12 through 18. You will also be able to see this interview with Chuck online by logging into Conneautohio.gov click on Departments, then CATV, and follow the link to the show.

Pastor and I sat down to review some short-term goals and objectives for him as well as commitments of the congregation during his settling in period. These are pastor's goals and encouragement goals of the congregation that are attached to pastor's compensation package sent to the synod office for approval and signature of our Bishop.

Pastor's Special Attention goals are as follows:

- 1) Become familiar with the congregation and build a positive relationship with the community of Conneaut.
- 2) Develop and implement a plan to rebuild the ministries of the church that have proven to drive growth at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Conneaut.
- 3) Keep congregation focused on our mission and begin to build a mutual vision for our future together.
- 4) Develop a visitation plan to encourage and understand talents and level of member involvement.
- 5) Develop plan to encourage youth at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Conneaut as well as an outreach plan to bring more young families to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Conneaut.

The Congregation will encourage and support pastor's ministry in the following ways:

- 1) Provide support and intentional Prayer for pastor and congregation.
- 2) Provide lay time and support allowing pastor time to become acclimated to the ministry and mission of the church.

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- 3) Encourage wearing of name tags to help pastor put names to faces. Provide name tags where needed.
 - 4) Invite pastor to participate in ministries where appropriate facilitating easier introduction to ministries.
 - 5) Be open, encouraging and participative in new ideas with the pastor.

Oh and finally Pastor Joshua had two more “small” things to do during his first two weeks in his new role at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church. He had to prepare and deliver two Sunday sermons and conduct four services. He also took some time to prepare his ordination as well as fly to New Mexico for his ordination leaving Conneaut on Wednesday evening after going to the NEO ELCA Synod office, arriving in New Mexico late Wednesday night, finish the preparations for his Ordination, become ordained on Friday and return “home” on Saturday and back in our pulpit on Sunday morning.

Welcome “Home” Pastor Joshua Krenz.

God’s Peace,
George A. Peterson
Call Committee Chairman

Evangelism

As this year winds down, I look back and I’m so thankful for all the love and support for this ministry that we started a year and half ago.

I want to thank everyone, but words cannot express how I feel deep down in my heart. It is bursting with joy and love for everyone.

Lunches will resume January 8. We will only serve lunches on Saturdays in the months of January and February but will provide enough lunches for two days. We were able to provide lunches and dinners to over 400 individuals. We served 30 families in our food pantry.

The January dinner will include sloppy joes, corn bread, coleslaw, chips and desserts.

We need people to help make lunches and dinner. There will be a sign-up sheet in the gathering space.

See all of you in New Year!

Gods Blessings ,
Michelle Logan
Chair, Evangelism



January 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Sunday School resumes on January 9 at 9:45 am.						1 
2 8:30 Service 11:00 Service	3 10:30 Enhance Fitness	4 9:00 Quilters 9:00 3M's	5 10:30 Enhance Fitness	6 5:30 Line Dancing	7 OFFICE CLOSED 10:30 Enhance Fitness 11:45 Gentle Yoga	8 11:00-12:30 Free Lunch
9 8:30 Service 11:00 Service	10 10:30 Enhance Fitness	11 9:00 Quilters 9:00 3M's 6:00 Committees	12 10:30 Enhance Fitness	13 5:30 Line Dancing 5:45 Finance	14 OFFICE CLOSED 10:30 Enhance Fitness 11:45 Gentle Yoga	15 11:00-12:30 Free Lunch
16 8:30 Service 11:00 Service 2:00 Pastor's Installation	17 10:30 Enhance Fitness	18 9:00 Quilters 9:00 3M's 6:00 Council	19 10:30 Enhance Fitness	20 Echo Articles Due 5:30 Line Dancing	21 OFFICE CLOSED 10:30 Enhance Fitness 11:45 Gentle Yoga	22 11:00-12:30 Free Lunch 4:00-6:00 Free Dinner
23 8:30 Service 11:00 Service Noon Congregation Meeting	24 10:30 Enhance Fitness	25 9:00 Quilters 9:00 3M's	26 10:30 Enhance Fitness 1-6 Red Cross Blood Drive	27 5:30 Line Dancing	28 OFFICE CLOSED 10:30 Enhance Fitness 11:45 Gentle Yoga	29 11:00-12:30 Free Lunch
30 8:30 Service 11:00 Service	31 10:30 Enhance Fitness	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ All services and activities at our area nursing homes are cancelled until further notice. ➤ Choir practice is cancelled until further notice. 				

Lord, we are your servants . . .

DATE/ TIME	ASSISTING MINISTER	COMMUNION ASSISTANT	USHERS	GREETERS	READER	HOSPITALITY	ACOLTYES	PROJECTION
1/2/2022 8:30		Kathy Mills			Tim Moga			
11:00		George Peterson			Nickolas Mason			
1/9/2022 8:30		Rich Kantola			Richard Tulino			
11:00					Kay Peterson			
1/16/2022 8:30		Katrina Pavolino					Aiden Vidmar	
11:00					Susan Tan			
1/23/2022 8:30		Suzanne Malys			Mike Malys			
11:00								
1/30/2022 8:30							Aiden Vidmar	
11:00					Kelly Anthony			

JANUARY ALTAR GUILD (thru February 6):

Pearl Ann Curtis, Stephanie Newsome,
Amanda Sanford, Stephanie Van Norman

FEBRUARY ALTAR GUILD (begin February 13):

Ruth Brown, Pearl Ann Curtis, Mary Lou Moisio

Serving 
from the
Heart

