



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

SEPTEMBER 2022

From the thoughts of the pastor . . .

I offer grace and peace to you from our Triune God who gave to us Jesus the Word of God and the Immanuel (God incarnate).

Amen+

I'm sitting in the office today, thinking about this article and the churchy word for this ECHO edition on the first day of the Conneaut D-Day Event and the only thing that keeps running through my head is... "War...what is it good for? Absolutely nothing..." by Edwin Starr. Now granted, this song came out in a very different time and national climate than World War II – to which we honor this weekend – but I find myself wondering the same question: War...what is it good for?

We, thankfully at the time of writing this, are not in the midst of a world war. But you can sense my caution in this with the qualifier "at the time of writing this". There are, however, wars happening in other countries around the world, conflict that is happening around the world, and so much of it doesn't make our news cycle at all. We know about the war in Ukraine, but did you know that conflict is still happening in Afghanistan, political instability in Lebanon, the war in Yemen continues, conflict in Ethiopia, and civil unrest in so many countries like Kenya, Russia, and here in the United States. War, what is it good for? Violence only begets more violence; evil encourages and supports evil and evil triumphs when we chose not to act.

I wonder from time to time if we are inherently violent as a species or if it is something that we've come to adapt. Or in other words, were we created with violence as part of our creation, or did we make it a part of ourselves on our own. Now, I don't believe that we were created with violence as part of our creation – a baby is not born with violence, there's no genetic makeup of violence. So where did violence come from? We, today, blame society, TV, video games, as the source of violence especially after a mass shooting. But is there something else, something more concrete, something that we overlook when blaming these things? I believe there is, I believe there is a failing that happens when we tend to blame game makers, TV shows, society influencers – we miss the home life.

Not being a parent, I can't possibly imagine what it is like to raise a child. You want to give them exposure to the outside world and also protect them from violence and negative influences. How does one do this? I don't know. But what I see more often is parents taking the "easy" way out and using technology as the new parent. Parents give their children a phone or tablet that doesn't promote learning, rather shows videos, games, and other adult content. Parents don't spend quality time with their children, playing games (board or card), doing puzzles, spending time in nature (even if it's walking around the block or riding a bike) or a museum or science center. Parents plop their children down in front of the TV or tablet where violence and sex and graphic shows are constantly on. These children then form bonds to the TV or tablet rather than forming bonds to their parents and these bonds children form only intensify when violence is shown in society and on social media. Is it

hard being a parent? Well, I can only guess but my answer would be yes, it is hard – and doubly hard for single parents (temporary or permanently). So, children are forming connections and bonds to their devices and only learn about the world through their devices.

Unfortunately, scripture doesn't help at all – the bible is a very violent book and we worship a person who was executed in a very horrific and violent manner. But that's not the end of the story, as we know. Jesus rose from the dead to give life – life instead of violence and death. But where does our focus go? It goes only to the Good Friday scene and not the Easter Sunday scene. We fixate on the Good Friday scene of violence and death but don't notice the empty cross. (Side note: Back when I first started here – actually when I first toured this building – I noticed the cross lower and learned of the back story on why it was lower. I thought to myself, if called here, I'd like to re-hang the cross. After I started and conversation began about re-hanging the cross, the question came of whether or not to attach Jesus back to the cross. Now, first of all, I like the equality of having the Jesus on either side of the altar, but also it's the empty cross that matters, not Jesus on the cross.)

It's the empty cross, the resurrection of Jesus that matters and not the execution, the life that matters and not the violence. Life over death, creation over destruction, action over inaction is what the gospel is all about. Evil has entered our world and our lives but our actions must not allow evil to spread. Evil has entered our world and our lives but our words must not allow evil to spread. Evil has entered our world and our lives but our creations and life must not allow evil to spread. Our words, our actions, our creations have meaning and that meaning must be life over death.

You'll be reading this article long after the D-Day Event is over but think of these days in this light: War...what is it good for? Absolutely nothing... if we allow it to exist on its own and let evil and violence grow and spread. Is there a justified or justifiable war? We'd like to think so, but does that make us feel better or does that only justify our need for violence? What we need to think of and focus on is this: what happens after and where is our Easter Sunday for all the violence and evil that exists. Focus on the empty cross and not the violence and evil. Give yourselves over to the resurrected Jesus for that is where life is and that will stop the violence and evil in this world.

Amen+

السلام عليكم





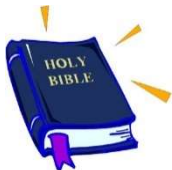
(Peace be upon you)

The Reverend Joshua Krenz

The Reverend Joshua Krenz

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 Nick's Closet 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 Members Maintenance Ministry (3 M's) is a group of members who meet bi-monthly in the evening 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

Office Hours

Monday-Thursday – 9:00 am to 2:00 pm

Pastoral Staff

Rev. Joshua Krenz, Pastor
gslcpastor@gwcmail.net

Office Staff

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

*A congregation of the
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America*



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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



To go to church or not go, we've all been there. At some time or another we seem to find any old excuse not to go to church. It might be a headache or maybe you were out late the night before or you might want to go out of town to go shopping or you might feel that nobody at church will miss you. Isn't it easy, so very easy, to find an excuse not to go to church? Maybe if we spent as much time looking for reasons to go to church instead of reasons not to go, our faith would have a chance to grow.

In order to grow spiritually, going to church is just as important as exercising for a healthy life. Our spiritual life needs to be healthy also, so that our relationship with God will grow and be healthy. I like going to church on Sunday because it makes me feel closer to God, it lifts my spirits, and it strengthens my faith. If we are to be serious about our faith, and grow in our spiritual life, what better place to be than at church with people who share the same interests and beliefs.

Many people say you don't need to go to church to be close to God, that you can just read the Bible and say prayers and get the same results. Well that may be true, just how many of us do that? It's like going to a meeting for alcohol addicts or a drug rehab program or a meeting where everyone is watching their weight. You need the support of those around you to get your life back on track and at church you get that same support and help from those worshipping with you. It really helps. It really does!

If we work hard to find a church where we can make a connection with others, we would find more ways to serve the Lord. When we have that connection we will also find that making a contribution to our church in some way will become easier and more fulfilling.

Church attendance according to a recent poll shows some interesting figures. It shows 80% of the people said that they were Christians but only 47% went to church on a regular basis. More revealing, was 31% admitted that they haven't been to church in the past 6 months unless it was for a funeral or a wedding. Among those who said they were Catholics, only 49% said they went to church weekly. For "born-again" Christians it was 59% and for those in the general Protestant category weekly attendance was fewer than 50%.

Some people might say, "I don't need someone preaching to me." That may be so but what you do need is someone reminding you about the dangers of gossip, about the need to be more patient with others, or the need to be more charitable with one another. These are all good things that you can get from the Pastor's messages on Sunday, and we still need to hear them from time to time. A good church is the place for that and a good church will supply the right medicine for what ails you spiritually. All you have to do is be willing to make the effort to attend church on a weekly basis. As an old television commercial said many years ago, "try it, you'll like it!"

**Lord I do not ask for a faith that would move mountains.
I pray Lord for enough faith to move me.**

September Birthdays



Nancy Altman
Kelly Anthony
Bryce Douglas
Kip Douglas
John Hutchison
Aurelia Huya

Craig Huya
Natalie Huya
Susan Lytle
Madeline Owens
Tammy Owens
Aaron Reed

Bob Reed
Olivia Sorrell
Diana Stoker
Richard Stoker
Martha Jayne Thompson
Annie Vendetti



GENERAL FUND BALANCE AS OF JULY 31, 2022

\$20,187

						%
						ESTIMATED
MONTH	OFFERING INCOME	YTD INCOME	%ESTIMATE BUDGETED REVENUE	EXPENSE	YEAR TO DATE	OPERATING COST
January	\$ 13,736	\$ 13,736	90.1%	\$ 9,303	\$ 9,303	60.5%
February	\$ 18,006	\$ 31,742	105.0%	\$ 12,434	\$ 21,736	66.2%
March	\$ 11,317	\$ 43,059	93.4%	\$ 18,287	\$ 44,352	92.0%
April	\$ 12,546	\$ 55,605	88.6%	\$ 15,966	\$ 60,318	95.4%
May	\$ 12,180	\$ 67,785	87.0%	\$ 15,509	\$ 75,827	94.1%
June	\$ 9,972	\$ 7,757	83.7%	\$ 16,895	\$ 92,722	96.7%
July	\$ 10,141	\$ 87,898	81.5%	\$ 12,356	\$ 105,078	94.5%



ATTENDANCE

7/31 72
8/7 51
8/14 73
8/21 62



A volunteer is needed to take over the ministry of leading the prayer chain. Please contact pastor if you are interested.

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.



This month's Big Churchy Word is actually going to be an update from the ELCA Churchwide Assembly (August 8th through August 12th) – what happened, and how it affects us.

The first news worthy event is an official and public apology to Santa MariáPeregrina. A bit of history on why this is important to begin. Several months ago, the bishop of the Sierra Pacific Synod removed the pastor of the Latino congregation IglesiaLuterana Santa MariáPeregrina in Stockton, California. While the removal of the pastor was suspect to begin with, the bishop decided (or scheduled) the removal on the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Now, regardless of your denomination, in the Latino community, this feast day is incredibly important and is honored as one of the most holy days in the church calendar year. Therefore, removal of the pastor on this holy day would almost be equal to removing a pastor in the Caucasian community on Christmas Day. The bishop of the synod was forced to resign after public outcry from the Latino community around the ELCA and from other pastors (this one included).

However, while this is important, it didn't necessarily reach the upper offices of the ELCA until the outcry became so loud that the Presiding Bishop (Bishop Elizabeth Eaton) formed a listening team (a listening team is a team made up of lay and rostered ministers of multiple communities who report directly back to the bishop). It was the delay in setting up this listening team and then the response from the listening team that cause huge criticism in and about the ELCA. Many people, especially in the Latino community, and other minority communities, gave this as an example of how the ELCA does not listen to (or to some extent care about) minority communities. Bishop Eaton did ask for the resignation of the bishop of the Sierra Pacific Synod and at the Churchwide Assembly, publicly apologized to this congregation.

How does this affect us? We need to remember that, while the majority of the ELCA is Caucasian, the ELCA does have people of all races, sexes, genders, etc. as members in this church and all should be listened to and respected.

The next big news item is the election of Imran Siddiqui as the Vice President of ELCA Church Council. Imran Siddiqui was born and grew up Muslim only becoming Lutheran in 2011. He is the first Asian American person to hold the office of Vice President. (The office of Vice President of ELCA Church Council is the highest office a layperson (non-ordained or rostered person) can hold.) While he is not the first person of color to hold the office, he is the first Muslim turned Lutheran to be elected as such. It should be noted that the top three candidates after the first ballot were people of color. This is encouraging as the ELCA does want to get rid of the stigma of being the whitest denomination in the US. That being said, in his acceptance remarks, Siddiqui said, "That doesn't mean we have solved racism yet. We have a lot of work to do, church." Siddiqui will officially take office in November.

How does this affect us? The ELCA has a strong belief, as do I, to the raising of lay leaders, people from the congregation, into leadership positions. The makeup of the Churchwide Assembly was 40% rostered ministers and 60% lay members. The Office of the Vice President of ELCA Church Council

represents you and brings to ELCA Church Council the concerns of its members. Also, in the ELCA, lay leadership has more “power” than the Presiding Bishop, especially over its governance.

Next up is one of the more notable memorials passed – the LandBack memorial. As you might be able to tell by now, the general theme of this assembly was acknowledging the abuse and hardships Europeans put on people who were of a difference race and color of skin. This memorial was to encourage ELCA members and entities to support “creative programs to restore justice in partnership with Indigenous peoples”. This means having members – especially in local congregations – consider returning the land to the appropriate Indigenous People Nations when considering selling or transferring property. This memorial also encourages congregations and communities to acknowledge the land as part of the public gatherings and to educate themselves of the Indigenous People who were here prior to the European arrival. Finally, this memorial encourages congregations to deepen relationships with the Indigenous People and tribal nations in their areas.

How does this affect us? We, as a congregation, and I, as the pastor, are encouraged to learn more about the Indigenous People of the Conneaut area and, perhaps, make ties with the nations that may exist around us. (Coming from New Mexico, there are a number of tribal nations surround Santa Fe alone and all over the state. It was a bit odd moving to a state that doesn’t have this.) I believe we can include tribal nations and Indigenous People in our worship setting and include language to honor the land we reside on.

Finally, the last major memorial that I’ll write about here – and believe me, there were a number of significant memorials that I can’t cover here – is the memorial about the Restructuring the governance of the ELCA. This memorial took a little bit of time to understand and to read (and reread) before understanding it a bit. What this memorial comes down to – a memorial that was passed by our Synod at our assembly in May – is forming a commission to see what the implications, financial cost, and feasibility of reconsidering the principles of the denomination’s organizational structure. Basically (and this is how I understand it) this commission is to investigate how the denomination is structured which exists from the original structuring from 35 years ago which the ELCA was formed. (Brief History lesson: The ELCA was formed from the merging of three other Lutheran denominations – the Lutheran Church in America (LCA), the American Lutheran Church (ALC), and the American Evangelical Lutheran Church (AELC) – back in 1988.) There were a lot of compromises made to the denominations before forming and things have changed since the 1980s. This commission will report its findings to the 2025 ELCA Churchwide Assembly in preparation for a reconstituting convention. While this commission is investigatory, I wouldn’t be surprised if at the 2025 Assembly, the members vote to hold a special assembly to rewrite the constitution of the ELCA. While amendments and changes to the Churchwide Constitution, Synod Constitution, and Model Constitutions for Congregations happen each assembly, this would be a significant change in the make-up of the ELCA leadership and what the ELCA stands for. (Specific chapters this commission will address are Chapter 4 – Statement of Purpose and Chapter 5 – Principles of Organization.)

How will this affect us? Well, in the short term, not too much, certainly not until the 2025 Assembly. In the long term, however, we could potentially see a potential change in ELCA theology and an inclusion specific to ELCA about other communities and how other churches join the ELCA. This possible reconstitution could mean churches leave this denomination, as they did in 2009, and it could clarify what it means to be ELCA. Finally, another possible change that could happen is how church governance happens with the potential of moving towards an episcopate (a direct hierarchy like the Episcopal and Catholic Churches). Again, this is possible potentials but something to keep in mind over

the next three years. We will see what happens at the 2025 Assembly when this commission presents its report.

Over the week, lots of business happened, lots of worship happened, lots of coming together happened. More than 800 Lutherans all gathered together to worship, sing, and do the business of the ELCA. This only happens every three years and, as you would expect, more business happened than mentioned here. If you are interested, go to <https://www.elca.org/Resources/Churchwide-Assembly> for all the information you can want...except what was passed and what was not; I'm still looking for that myself. Though, once the actions of the assembly are written up, it should be under the "minutes" tab of that web address.



2022 ELCA
CHURCHWIDE ASSEMBLY
August 8-12, 2022
Columbus, Ohio



Memorial Candle



Our Sponsors

Date	In Honor/Memory of	Given by
Bulletins:		
September 4		
September 11		
September 18		
September 25		
Flowers:		
September 4		
September 11	In Memory of "Baby" Sereniti	Chris Murtha
September 18		
September 25		
Memorial Candle:		
September	In Memory of Joy Dittler	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 11:00 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.

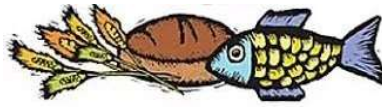
BULLETINS

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

Fishes & Loaves



Ministry

FREE LUNCH

Pickup: 11:00 to 12:30 Saturday

Lunches include: Dinners, as well as vegetable, chips, fruit,
and drink, plus a special treat
Dinners are included with lunches



Hours: Saturday 11:00 to 12:30

Wednesday 9:00 to 2:00 and 5:00 to 7:00

After hours Food Pantry phone number: (440) 381-1018



Hours: Saturday 11:00 to 12:30

Essential Cleaning and Hygiene Items

Items include paper products, household items, and hygiene items

The Cover Girls are Back!

Tuesday, September 6, 9:00 a.m.

Please remember that quilting starts on September 6 at 9:00 a.m. Peggy Harco has promised a yummy dessert to start off the new year! Everyone is welcome and there are many jobs if you can't sew.



Sunday school will resume on **September 11**, which is Grandparents Day, so bring them along!! It will still be held from 9:45-10:45. We will gather in the Fellowship Hall for registration, craft and snack! See you there! (Registration forms begin on p. 12.)

Also students going into confirmation will meet with Pastor. And all high school students are invited to come and express your ideas for an informal group gathering.

We are always in need of more volunteers to help educate our youth in Jesus' teachings. Please consider this vital role in our church. God Bless!



Basket Raffle Saturday, October 1

Hello members and friends. As you may know, FISHES and LOAVES plus the QUILTING ministries are holding a basket raffle on October 1, 2022, from 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. in our Fellowship Hall. The proceeds will help fund both vital community outreach programs here at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church. In order to make this a success, we need your help! Contributions can include money, gift certificates, complete baskets or items to help build a basket and food.

This exciting event will offer an entry ticket for \$5.00 that also includes 20 raffle tickets and a chance to win a \$250.00 cash door prize!

Also being offered are 50/50 tickets as well as larger prize chances. A light lunch will be available for purchase and we are asking for baked goods to serve as dessert.

Do this as a family project or buddy up with a friend to build a basket and use your imagination. Especially popular are offerings for pets, children, teenagers and men as well as gardeners, cooks and hobbyists. It can be any size. If you cannot afford to make a complete basket, we are accepting donations of cash or new items to help us fill baskets. Or if you wish to donate your time, we would greatly appreciate workers to help us accomplish our goal. If you have beautiful writing skills maybe you can label the baskets from donors? If you have a flair for decorating, we need your help wrapping baskets and presenting them in an attractive manner. Should baking be your talent, consider making a pie, cake, cookies or brownies to sell. Holding an event like this will take a lot of people to man the ticket tables and registration plus food sales. Think about how you can contribute to this worthy fundraiser. It's going to be fun!

Need more information or wish to contribute? Call Martha Jayne Thompson at (440) 593-4873 Michelle Logan at (440) 265-8727 or Shirley Harco at (440) 594-3873.

Thank you and we look forward to hearing from you.

SUNDAY SCHOOL GRADE _____

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
SUNDAY SCHOOL REGISTRATION
2022-2023

STUDENT NAME _____ BIRTHDAY _____
(Last) (First) (Middle Initial)

BAPTIZED YES _____ Date _____ NO _____

FIRST COMMUNION YES _____ Date _____ NO _____

SCHOOL GRADE _____

STUDENT'S ADDRESS _____
(Street) (City) (State) (Zip)

LIVE WITH PARENT(S) _____
(Name/s)

LIVE WITH GUARDIAN(S) _____
(Name/s)

BEST PHONE NUMBER TO BE REACHED AT _____

EMERGENCY CONTACT _____
(Name) (Relationship) (Phone)

I give permission for my son/daughter _____ to have his/her picture
(name)
included in the church newsletters, website, and social media for Good Shepherd Lutheran Church.

Name of parent/guardian

Date

**FOR YOUR CHILD'S SAFETY,
PLEASE COME TO THE CLASSROOM AT DISMISSAL.
CDC PROTOCOL WILL BE FOLLOWED.**

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
MEDICAL INFORMATION
2022-2023

CHILD'S NAME _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN'S NAME _____

BEST PHONE NUMBER TO BE REACHED AT _____

Please list any learning needs that your child may have and/or medical conditions:

Please list any food allergies your child may have AND what needs to be done in the event of an allergic reaction:

Please list any non-food allergies your child may have AND what needs to be done in the event of an allergic reaction:

Please use the back of this form if needed.

RETURN THIS FORM TO:
The church office



Hospitality Help Needed

Volunteers are needed for hospitality after each service. It doesn't take much, a plate of cookies from the store and a jug of juice will do. Please contact Pearl Ann Curtis or see the sign-up sheet on the kiosk.



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



Fishes & Loaves needs your help with the weekly lunches. Sign-up sheets are located on the kiosk. Volunteers are needed to help out with Fishes & Loaves for an hour on Saturday. Please consider returning an hour a week of what God has given you back to God.

The folks you always see behind the kitchen doors for all of our events need your help, too. Please consider joining **Social Ministry** and/or **The Cooks for Christ**. If you are interested in becoming a member, contact Shirley Harco or Pearl Ann Curtis.

News & Updates



A Message from the President

Highlights of August 16th Council Meeting:

Treasurer's Report

The balance in the General Fund as of July 31st was \$20,187, a decrease of \$7,489 from May 31st. Here are the monthly and year-to-date offering income and expense numbers.

MONTH	OFFERING INCOME	YTD INCOME	EXPENSE	YEAR TO DATE	SURPLUS/ DEFICIT
January	\$ 13,736	\$ 13,736	\$ 9,303	\$ 9,303	+ \$ 4,433
February	\$ 18,006	\$ 31,742	\$ 12,434	\$ 21,736	+ \$ 5,677
March	\$ 11,317	\$ 43,059	\$ 18,287	\$ 44,352	- \$ 1,293
April	\$ 12,546	\$ 55,605	\$ 15,966	\$ 60,318	- \$ 4,713
May	\$ 12,180	\$ 67,785	\$ 15,509	\$ 75,827	- \$ 8,042
June	\$ 9,972	\$ 77,757	\$ 16,895	\$ 92,722	- \$ 14,965
July	\$ 10,141	\$ 87,898	\$ 12,356	\$ 105,078	- \$ 17,180

Our 2022 budget is \$190,622. In order to meet that budget our offering income needs to be, on average, \$15,885 per month. So far this year we have met that monthly goal only once and that was in February. Our year-to-date offering income shortage is an alarming \$23,297! Expenses, on the other hand, are \$6,117 less than expected, otherwise, our operating deficit of \$17,180 would have been worse.

COVID-19 hit church attendance hard all across America and we were no exception. In addition to that, we were without a pastor for 14 months. It is common for attendance to decline when the congregation is searching for a pastor. But then was then and now is now. Fortune has smiled on us, first with the calling of Pastor Josh to lead us and secondly, the ravages of the COVID virus have largely been suppressed through vaccines, therapeutic drugs, and natural immunity. I encourage you to return to worship to hear the Word of God, commune in His grace, and support His ministry at Good Shepherd.

Emergency Vehicle Drive to be Built

Conneaut Fire Chief Lee met with property chair, George Peterson, and declared that we should have a drive from Lake Road to our courtyard in order for a fire truck to have full access to all parts of our building to effectively fight a fire. Expect to see that to happen in the near future.

Church Policy Revisions

Pastor Josh presented revisions to our policies that govern 1) Weddings within GSLC, 2) Usage of Fellowship Hall, and 3) Usage of tables and chairs. During our discussion of these changes there were some recommendations from council members that Pastor agreed to take into consideration. The proposals were tabled until next month's meeting.

Congregation Meeting October 9, 2022

Pastor Josh announced there will be a congregation meeting Sunday, October 9th after the 11:00 service for the purpose of presenting a tentative 2023 annual budget to the members. The meeting will be for discussion only; no vote will be taken until the December congregation meeting.

D-Day Fish Dinner

I hope you enjoyed the fish dinner on August 19th as much as Susan and I did. Fellowship Hall was nicely organized with the round tables that are much more conducive to friendly conversations than the 8-foot rectangular tables. Better yet was the terrific cod fish dinner, complete with potato salad, coleslaw, baked beans, bread and butter, tartar sauce, beverages, and a wide variety of desserts. Those desserts were made by the many hands of our membership who responded with an overflow of sweet treats. The kitchen crew of Pearl Ann Curtis, Amy Gallagher, Julie and Rich Kantola, Kay and George Peterson, Susan and John Chapin, Kathy Mills, Janelle Cole, Rich Tulino, and Suzanne Malys put in a long, long day preparing the excellent meal. Pam Deemer and Peggy Harco were the greeters/ticket sellers and Ruth Brown and Mary Lou Moisio helped with the clean-up of the hall and kitchen. Thank you for your dedication and hard work! Thanks also go to the Kingsville Boy Scout Troop that served the meals. Please forgive me if I omitted anyone.

Our fish dinner has become a tradition of the D-Day Conneaut event that is enjoyed by re-enactors, visitors, and members of Good Shepherd. I saw several tables of American GI's fraternizing with German soldiers. Imagine that! They looked relaxed, happy, and comfortable in our air-conditioned hall, ready to enjoy an all-you-can-eat meal after a long day in the hot sun. Again, thank you to everyone who made this possible!

Peace be with you,

Mark Lytle

Council President

CONGREGATION MEETING
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2022
Following 11:00 Service
Please plan to attend.

Committee News

Social Ministry

Well, D-Day has happened in our little town again. What a fantastic group of people that come together and make this reenactment weekend happen every August. Social Ministry and Evangelism were very busy. We had a couple of twelve-hour days. We didn't have any significant glitches. The city had Grove Street closed for a while with water or sewer problems, but we got it taken care of quickly. Some of our workers were detoured trying to get to the Church, and parking was at a premium. We did start serving before starting time and were busy until stopping time. Our patrons were happy to have all-you-can-eat. Not perch or walleye, but very tasty whitefish. It was great to work and serve in the air conditioning.

We will take a few weeks to regroup and then help Evangelism with a basket raffle already in the works. Watch for more news on that event as evangelism progresses. The date for the raffle is October 1.

Thank you to the Boy Scout troop that handled the dining room; you did an excellent job! And thank you to the worker bees that multi-tasked and did so many things helping Evangelism and Social Ministry. Thanks to the fish cookers for unclogging the sink, Kathy Mills for being prepared for any emergency, and Sofi and Jenna Thompson for helping with take-outs.

I can't speak for everyone, but I was exhausted and happy with the event, and I think you would agree.

Blessing to all as we serve the lord,

Pearl Ann Curtis

Social Ministry Team



Hello,

We want to thank you for the fish fry yesterday at the D-Day Re-enactment. For 10 years we have been going to D-Day and the Fish Fry (except for last 2 years), and my husband and I feel that D-Day is the most looked forward to event of the year for us, and the highlight of the event is ending it with the fish fry at your church.

Thank you for all of the work you put into this event. Fish was delicious, even if it was cod rather than perch!

And the blackberry pie was fantastic!

Mike and Kathy Schmidt, Medina, Ohio



September 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
 9:45 –10:45 Beginning Sept. 11				1 5:30 Line Dancing	2 OFFICE CLOSED 10:30 Enhance Fitness 11:45 Gentle Yoga	3
4 8:30 Service 11:00 Service	5 Labor Day OFFICE CLOSED 9:00 &10:30 YMCA Fitness	6 9:00 3M's & Cover Girls	7 9:00 &10:30 YMCA Fitness	8 5:30 Line Dancing	9 OFFICE CLOSED 9:00 &10:30 YMCA Fitness11:45 Gentle Yoga	10 11:00-12:30 Free Lunch
11 8:30 Service 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Service	12 9:00 &10:30 YMCA Fitness	13 9:00 3M's& Cover Girls 6:00 All Committees	14 9:00 &10:30 YMCA Fitness	15 5:30 Line Dancing	16 OFFICE CLOSED 9:00 &10:30 YMCA Fitness11:45 Gentle Yoga	17 11:00-12:30 Free Lunch
18 8:30 Service 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Service	19 9:00 &10:30 YMCA Fitness	20 Echo Articles Due 9:00 3M's& Cover Girls 6:00 Council	21 9:00 &10:30 YMCA Fitness	22 5:30 Line Dancing	23 OFFICE CLOSED 9:00 &10:30 YMCA Fitness11:45 Gentle Yoga	24 11:00-12:30 Free Lunch
25 8:30 Service 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Service	26 9:00 &10:30 YMCA Fitness	27 9:00 3M's& Cover Girls	28 9:00 &10:30 YMCA Fitness	29 5:30 Line Dancing	30 OFFICE CLOSED 9:00 &10:30 YMCA Fitness11:45 Gentle Yoga	

From a compilation by Max Bowen of announcements that actually appeared in church bulletins or were announced at church services:

“The church will host an evening of fine dining, super entertainment and gracious hostility.”



Lord, we are your servants . . .

DATE/ TIME	ASSISTING MINISTER	COMMUNION ASSISTANT	USHERS	GREETERS	READER	HOSPITALITY	ACOLTYES	PROJECTION
9/4/2022 8:30	Amy Gallagher	Susan Combs	Katrina Pavolino	Shirley Brookhouser	Jerry Brookhouser			
10:30	Faye Lampela	Mark Lytle	Ruth Brown	Ruth Brown	Mark Lytle			
9/11/2022 8:30	Richard Tulino	Kathy Mills	Julie & Rich Kantola	Nancy Altman Dolores Pelow	Richard Tulino			
11:00	Jennifer Best	Paul Mechling	Stacy Racut	Stephanie Newsome	Janelle Cole			
9/18/2022 8:30	Mike Malys	Shirley Harco	Janet Maenpaa	Peggy & Shirley Harco	Mike Malys			
11:00	Mark Lytle	Greg Betteridge	Stacy Racut	Bob & EJ Hybert	Stacy Racut			
9/25/2022 8:30	Richard Tulino	Amy Gallagher	Suzanne Malys	Sue & John Chapin	Richard Tulino			
11:00	Jennifer Best	Janelle Cole	Kelly Anthony	Joanne Mechling	Paul Mechling			

SEPTEMBER ALTAR GUILD: Robin Bryant,
Sue Chapin, Pam Deemer, Betty Monday

OCTOBER ALTAR GUILD: Kelly Anthony,
Ruth Brown, Susan Combs

Serving 
from the
Heart

