



# 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

**NOVEMBER 2024**

*From the thoughts of the pastor ...*

Last month, we began the topic of the Seven Deadly Sins and defined what is a sin using the three definitions: a) my definition, b) the definition from Merriam-Webster, and c) a definition from the books used in seminary class. As promised, we are going to start diving deeper into the Seven Deadly Sins of Pride, Anger, Gluttony, Envy, Lust, Sloth, and Greed and begin with Pride – considered by some the deadliest sin of all listed.

According to the Ancient Greeks, Pride – or hubris – is considered the original and worst of the seven as it is considered the most demonic. Pride is also considered the root of other sins if not the root of the other six deadly sins. But what does pride mean? Is it sinful to have any level of pride? What about pride in a child or family member?

First, let us define pride. a) Pride is the overindulgence in oneself, the attention away from others, especially God, that produces worship of oneself where everything is about them or that

they are the solution to every problem – a person like this would be considered a narcissist. b) A reasonable self-esteem: confidence and satisfaction in oneself – self-respect; pleasure that comes from some relationship association, achievement, or possession that is seen as a source of honor, respect, etc.; exaggerated self-esteem – conceit.<sup>1</sup> c) “Vainglory [another term for pride] is the excessive and disordered desire for recognition and approval from others;”<sup>2</sup> “... the basic problem with pride... its tendency to isolate us from others.”<sup>3</sup> As you can see, pride can be defined in many different ways but there is one overall theme, the oneself that is the focus.

Thus, the second question: is it sinful to have any level of pride? In short, the answer is no. Now I know I just wrote about all the definitions of pride and that the basic theme of pride is the oneself focus. But it is human nature to consider oneself... to a point. Let me give you an example: consider a large wealth situation such as winning the

lottery. What do you do with your winnings? What I would do is first pay off all my debts – student loans, credit cards, Jeep payment, etc. – and then consider buying a house in this area as relative cost would not matter. I also would give some of it away after doing these oneself things. Now you think about it. Would you pay off your mortgage and other loans, get that new car that you’ve been putting off until you retire or the one you have finally dies, put more money and time into your hobbies of model railroad or golfing or classic cars? These are all oneself things too. Humans like to be comfortable and safe and this includes financially comfortable and safe. But this oneselfness does not add up to the level of sinful pride... yet.

Sinful pride happens when these winnings start to become what you worship or what you force others to worship. Sinful pride happens when you start to give your money away with strings attached – strings that benefit you, give you power, give you control. Sinful pride is the

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/pride>

<sup>2</sup> DeYoung, R. K. (2009). *Glittering vices: A new look at the seven deadly sins and their remedies*. Brazos Press.

<sup>3</sup> Capps, D. (2000). *Deadly sins and saving virtues*. Wipf and Stock Publishers.

overindulgence or abandonment or selling your beliefs and your self-worth and self-respect for your own worship or others to worship you. This can be a slippery slope, especially in a place that survives on donations when donors start making demands of the organization for their donation. It happens in churches all the time – not the winning the lottery thing – but people saying, “if you don’t do this” or “because you did that, I’m not going to give my donation of time, talent, or money”; it’s the, “I’m mad at you so I’m taking my money elsewhere” mentality. Those that offer grants with restrictions on them, while generous in nature, start to slip into more of sinful pride. Do you give because you want to see the organization/church succeed in this place, or do you give for power, control, or some other reason that is of the oneness? You can have pride, but that pride must be tempered and restricted, moderated and in collation with others.

Finally, we reach the third question: What about pride in a child or family member? You most definitely can have pride in a child or family member provided that pride is tempered and moderated, that this pride is indeed for the child or family member and not the “look what MY child did” or the “that’s MY spouse”; that kind of pride start sliding toward the sinful pride (*emphasis added for clarity*). Be proud of the child or family

member for them and not how it reflects on you. There is, however, another side to this pride that is sinful and easier to fall into – being ashamed of a child or family member. Another example: you have a child playing sports – soccer for example – and they miss an easy goal. The sin comes when you get mad at them, even yell at them, because that (we’ll say lack-of-pride) is more of a you-thing than a child thing and you become angry or ashamed because of how that child’s actions reflect on you. Parents who have had to deal with children becoming criminals fall into this lack-of-pride sin which can be just as deadly as pride because the focus is still on the parent.

You will see as these discussions go on that the deadly sin becomes deadly because it’s an excess of oneself and sin because the excess of oneself takes the focus, worship, praise, and love off of God. So, what, if anything, can be done about this deadly sin, how can we stop ourselves from falling on this slippery slope into being an excess of ourselves? The antonym of pride is humility. Simply put, but humble. Recognize you are not perfect, try to do better, and ask for forgiveness.

I know recently there has been a number of items being proposed to enter the church – the memorial prayer candle stand and the holy water fonts – that are seeming to make this church Catholic. Remember, Martin

Luther never sought to separate away from the Catholic church. And when he realized what has happened, he didn’t regret the separation but wish his reforming of the church happened within the church. Good Shepherd is a Lutheran church and has Lutheran theology, will teach and preach Lutheran theology. But that theology is the major difference, not the equipment or the furniture or the traditions. One of those traditions and theology Lutheran and Catholic churches (somewhat) agree on is the can’t ask for forgiveness without trying to do better. The Catholic Church belief is their priests cannot offer absolution without your commitment to stop what is causing you to sin. The Lutheran Church belief is their pastors can offer the absolution without your commitment but still want you to stop what is causing you to sin. The case of pride, be humble and try to do better.

In a world where getting the most likes or shares or subscribers is the mark of success, sinful pride is ever growing. Let us, at least, remember to be humble – say and mean what you say when you’re wrong, try to do better, ask for forgiveness, and worship only God. Amen+

السلام عليكم

(Peace be upon you)

The Reverend Joshua Krenz

The Reverend Joshua Krenz

# The Big Churchy Word



With some of the additions coming to the church, thought it would be a good idea to define some of the liturgical words that we will see in the near future.

**Font, baptismal** (Lat. *Fons*, “spring of water”) A type of large bowl used for holding water used in baptisms. Baptismal fonts are found in churches near the door, in a baptistery, or in the sanctuary near the pulpit. They may be constructed in shapes symbolic of the sacrament of baptism, such as eight-sided to recall the Old Testament practice of circumcision, performed on the eighth day after birth; or, three-sided to point to the three persons of the Trinity.<sup>4</sup>

**Stoup** (Middle Eng. *Stowp*, “a vessel”) A container for holy water found at the entrance of churches. Those who enter may dip the fingers of their right hand into the vessel and bless themselves by making the sign of the cross.<sup>5</sup>

**Sign of the Cross** The movement of the right hand from head to breast to left shoulder to right shoulder to outline the shape of a cross. As a sign of devotion it

is prominent within the Roman Catholic and Episcopal traditions. In the Easter church the last movement is from the right to left across the shoulders.<sup>6</sup>

At Good Shepherd, we have a very lovely waterfall baptism font that remains in the chancel of the sanctuary. This font was created by a loving member and is one of the most beautiful fonts I have seen in many churches. The church I grew up in in Santa Fe had a font much like the previous font Good Shepherd had which was nothing more than a plinth (pedestal) with a silver bowl in the top, not really that ornate or that special. But the current baptismal font is far more ornate, far more special, than just a regular bowl in a plinth.

There is one downside of our baptismal font, it is difficult to move – heavy when drained – and fragile as the “head” of the waterfall can easily be damaged. Thus, for the last year or so, the baptismal font hasn’t moved from its current location. This does, though, make it difficult for those who wish to remember their baptism with Holy Water

before beginning a worship service or when entering the sanctuary. Due to the current construction of the sanctuary, moving the baptismal font to the rear is unpractical and could cause damage to the font. This practice is why the two Holy Water Fonts are going to be installed on either side of the main double doors into the sanctuary.

It is a practice, though older and cultural, to dip a finger or two into the baptismal font and make a sign of the cross as a reminder of your baptism – that you are a child of God – and to help you remember your baptismal vows. This practice exists, in this area, most prevalently in Roman Catholic Churches like Corpus Christi, but this practice is also done in Anglican (Episcopal) Churches and Lutheran Churches. In some churches, additional Holy Water Fonts are placed at the foot of a crucifix or other Christian art. What is coming to Good Shepherd would better be called a Stoup as the beautiful baptismal font would be the primary location for baptisms.

<sup>4</sup> McKim, Donald K. *The Westminster Dictionary of Theological Terms* 2 Ed.

Westminster John Knox Press: Louisville, Kentucky, 2014.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid.

<sup>6</sup> Ibid.

Whether a font or a stoup, the idea is to remember your baptism, that you are a child of God, and you are loved. Baptism is the ritual washing that has existed for centuries – centuries before Christ – and Christ was baptized himself. Having these stoups next to the doors for those who have grown up in the tradition or are transitioning from one tradition to another, allow a sense of ritual cleaning –

or reminder of your ritual cleaning – that you are forgiven of all your sins through the baptism of the Holy Spirit. Like everything in the sanctuary, these fonts, or stoups, the making the sign of the cross, is all voluntary. And if adding these fonts or stoups makes just one person feel closer to God or allows just one person to have a fuller worship experience of God, then it's worth it. Afterall,

we, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Conneaut, Ohio, exist to bring people closer to God. This is not a Roman Catholic thing, or an Anglican (Episcopal) thing, or a Lutheran thing; this calling is a catholic (universal) church – Christian church – thing.

# November Birthdays



Carol Allds  
 Pamela Anderson  
 Paul Brown  
 AnnaMae Cameron  
 Shelly Carpenter  
 Pearl Ann Curtis  
 Pamela Deemer

Bronwen Fill  
 Jerry Janco  
 Susan McCarron  
 Kathy Mills  
 James Monday  
 Dan Patriarco  
 Judy Pew

Cheryl Poff  
 Dave Punkar  
 Taylor Racut  
 Cameron Sorrell  
 Susan Tan  
 Ron Young



## ATTENDANCE

9/29	69
10/6	60
10/13	66
10/20	59

Prayer and visitation requests may be submitted in the box in the Narthex or box in the airlock by the offices, using the cards provided.

# PRAYER

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



**GENERAL FUND BALANCE AS OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2024**

**\$661**

<b>MONTH</b>	<b>OFFERING INCOME</b>	<b>OTHER INCOME</b>	<b>YTD INCOME</b>	<b>%ESTIMATE BUDGETED REVENUE</b>	<b>EXPENSE</b>	<b>YEAR TO DATE</b>	<b>% ESTIMATED OPERATING COST</b>
January	\$10,527	\$ 369	\$10,896	68.2%	\$18,831	\$ 18,831	115.3%
February	\$15,228	\$ 508	\$26,632	81.9%	\$16,885	\$ 35,716	105.9%
March	\$10,184	\$1,263	\$38,079	76.6%	\$15,319	\$ 51,036	103.4%
April	\$11,021	\$1,006	\$50,106	76.5%	\$18,836	\$ 69,872	108.5%
May	\$ 7,233	\$ 375	\$57,714	70.9%	\$13,381	\$ 83,179	100.6%
June	\$10,063	\$ 225	\$68,003	70.0%	\$15,481	\$ 98,660	100.8%
July	\$ 7,776	\$ 225	\$76,004	69.4%	\$14,960	\$113,619	100.8%
August	\$ 9,124	\$ 225	\$85,352	66.3%	\$12,514	\$126,133	97.5%
September	\$ 9,340	\$ 225	\$94,917	65.6%	\$16,033	\$142,166	98.4%
						<b>Budget income YTD</b> \$144,612.98	<b>Budget expense YTD</b> \$ 144,417.25

Need \$15,622 ea Mo.	\$187,465/year	\$(49,696)	EXPENSE V BUDGET	\$(2,252)
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	<b>8/31/2024</b>	<b>9/30/2024</b>
Capital Improvement Endowment Fund <i>Money Market Fund</i>	\$ 930,539	\$ 958,733
Family Center Endowment Fund Balance	\$ 37,883	\$ 39,357
Mission & Education Endowment Fund	\$ 121,462	\$ 123,579
Thrivent Fund	\$ 13,754	\$ 13,754
Capital Improvement	\$ -	\$ -
Youth Missions Fund	\$ 15,418	\$ 12,067
Abiding Memorial	\$ 7,327	\$ 7,627
Detroit Street	\$ 2,503	\$ 2,178
Sandusky St	\$ 3,738	\$ 2,834
Reserve Account	\$ -	\$ -
10% Biblical Tithe to Synod		\$ 894

*Stacy Racut, Treasurer*

# NEWS & UPDATES

**Pastor will be on vacation  
November 4<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup>**



**Children's  
Message**  
Every 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month  
Sept-May during worship services  
November 17: "No Rules"

## QUILT RAFFLE

**Tickets:  
1 for \$1 6 for \$5 14 for \$10**

**Order through the office  
or through the Square link**

**1<sup>st</sup> Monthly Drawing- November 24<sup>th</sup>**



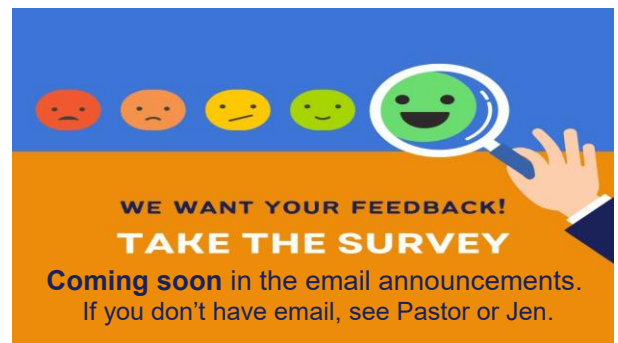
**MONTHLY MINISTRY FOCUS  
Sunday, November 24<sup>th</sup> 10am**

November's Monthly Ministry Focus will be about how we use cooking in the different ministries, such as Nisua and Funeral Luncheons (and if you can't cook, you can help serve, wash dishes, etc.) ALL ARE WELCOME to join these; come learn about the different ministries of Good Shepherd.

**DOT VOTING:**  
put a sticker  
on 1 of the signs  
in the back of  
the sanctuary.

**Green = yes  
Red = no**

Would you use this font?



**Coming soon in the email announcements.  
If you don't have email, see Pastor or Jen.**



### Lutheran Disaster Response: Hurricane Helene

Hurricane Helene hit the coast of Florida as a devastating Category 4 hurricane and moved inland as a tropical storm through the southeastern United States. Millions are without power as heavy rains continue to fall, causing dangerous flooding and landslides, as well as downed trees and power lines.

**Wherever this storm goes, Lutheran Disaster Response will be there.**



**Scan the QR code to give today.**  
By giving to Lutheran Disaster Response, you make it possible for the ELCA to act quickly after disasters such as Hurricane Helene and remain for as long as the recovery takes.



**Nisua Bake  
December 7<sup>th</sup>  
Volunteers Welcome  
Order on or before  
December 1<sup>st</sup>**

Thank you for your support!  
The Nisua Crew

**\$7 cash  
\$9 digital/ credit card**

# Committee News

## **Christian Education**

We have seen a slight increase in Sunday School attendance. In November, our monthly lesson is "No Rules". Our November theme covers a few chapters of Judges where people don't follow God's rules but think that they are: they build false idols and steal which brings them prosperity, so they say it's godly; driven by vengeance, they go to war, hearing what they want to hear believing that God told them to; instead of changing with the times and accepting that they could marry someone from

another tribe, they lie to their daughters and have them kidnapped. It's a really heavy month of lessons seeing the Israelites get trapped in these cycles of bad choices and breaking God's rules, but we wrap it all up knowing that when we cry out to God for help, He helps; that we can learn from this and don't have to get caught in cycles of sin; and that even if we fall short Jesus saves us from sin.

The 3rd Sunday of every month (September-May), during worship services, we'll have a children's message before the

readings. Invite the kids/grand-kids to church with you, so they can hear it. The next one is November 17th; we'll learn about following the rules (or laws).

Save the date for our Christmas party on December 14<sup>th</sup>, 4-6 pm. ALL ARE WELCOME! We will need volunteers to help for all the things we have planned: cookie bake, making candles, snow, snowflakes, singing carols, and more!

God's blessings,  
*Jennifer Best*  
Christian Education

## **Evangelism**

The Evangelism Team would like to thank everyone who supported the basket raffle. It was a huge success! We were able to raise over \$2,600 to benefit the ministries of the church. We would especially like to thank those who donated items to the basket raffle: Pearl Ann Curtis, Lee Weaver, Peggy

Harco, Shirley Harco, Suzanne Malys, Ruth Brown, Amy Gallagher, Susan Combs, Janice Boyle, Jan Uveges, Good Shepherd Quilters, Glenda Betteridge, Laurie Bidwell, Robin Bryant, Ron Young, Carol Allds, and Martha Jayne Thompson.

And a huge thank you to all who donated their time to help with the basket raffle: Nicholas

Mason, Sue Robison, Jan Uveges, Janice Boyle, Barb Talan, Mary Lou Moio, Robin and Jim Bryant, Kathy Mills, Martha Jayne and Dave Thompson.

Keep a look out for Eugene the Turkey. Pluck his feathers for items to donate for the Christmas Families Ministry.

Many Blessings,  
Evangelism Team

## **Quilting**

Quilting Ministry is having its first quilt raffle! Handmade by our very own GSLC Quilting Ministry and blessed during the October 17th services.

Tickets are on sale now: 1 for \$1, 6 for \$5, 14 for \$10. Order

through the office Monday - Thursday 8:30-1:30, or online using the link below: <https://checkout.square.site/.../REQOJNBVFC3GAXCHXCBT3SAK>

You can learn more about the Quilting Ministry Sunday,

October 27th at 10am during our Monthly Ministry Focus.

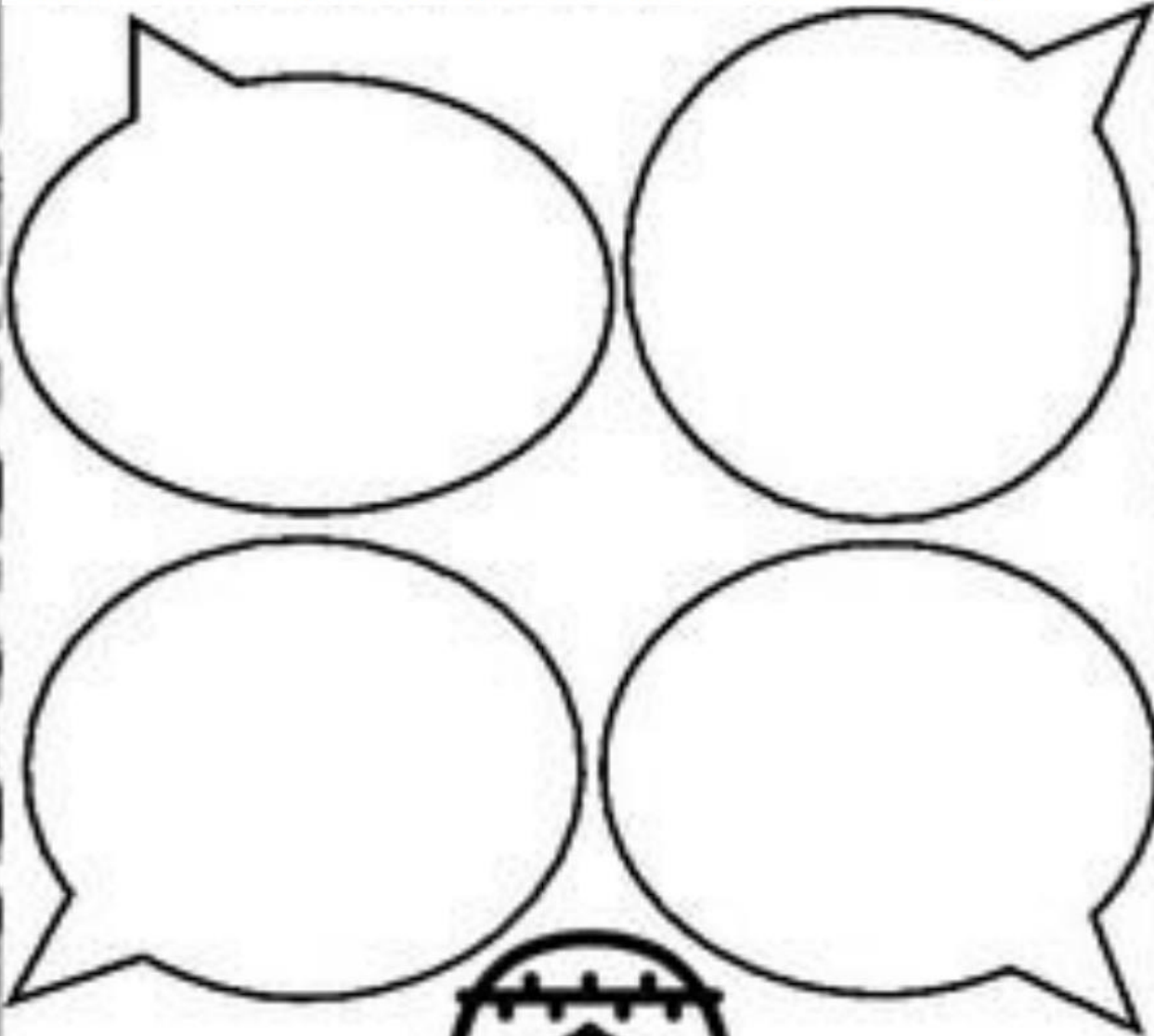
Please note there will be no quilting on November 5 due to election day or November 26 for the Thanksgiving holiday.

Many Blessings,  
Quilting Team

An interview with...

# Christ the King

What are some questions you would ask Christ the King?

Four large, empty speech bubbles arranged in a 2x2 grid, intended for students to write their questions.





Christmas poinsettia plants are available at a cost of \$10.00 per plant. Payment along with this form may be placed in the offering or mailed to the church office.

We would ask that one name or one couple be honored or memorialized for each plant ordered. Thank you!

In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

Donor's Name \_\_\_\_\_

**LAST DAY FOR ORDERING WILL BE SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8<sup>TH</sup>, 2024.**  
Plants may be left at the church through Sunday, December 29<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

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### Volunteer Opportunities

Planning has begun for Designer Purse Bingo. Contact Taylor at 440-812-7745 if you're interested in volunteering.

3Ms: Member's Maintenance Ministry – Pitch in a few hours a month to help preserve the maintenance and beauty of our church. All skill levels welcome!

Fishes & Loaves – Volunteers are always welcome to assist with the free lunches and food pantry. Hours are Tuesdays from 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. and Saturdays 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. For food emergencies, call 440-381-1018.

Hospitality Ministry – Volunteers welcomed to serve hospitality after each service. It doesn't take much, a plate of cookies from the store and a jug of juice will do. Sign-up sheet is in the Narthex.

Make a joyful noise and share your musical talents! Join the choir and/or bell choir. You'll be glad you did! Sign-up sheets are in the Narthex.

Drummer needed for the Praise Band.

For more info about GSLC ministries and volunteer opportunities, contact the office at 440-599-8908.



# November 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Reminder: Daylight Savings Time ends November 3 Pastor's vacation: November 4-19 Finance Committee and Council meeting date/times are posted outside the office.					<b>1</b> <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b> <i>10:30 YMCA Fitness</i>	<b>2</b> 8:00 3M's 11-12:30 Food Pantry Free Lunches & Nick's Closet
<b>3</b> <b>All Saints Sunday</b> 8:30 Service 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Service	<b>4</b> <i>9:00 &amp; 10:30 YMCA Fitness</i>	<b>5</b> Election Day 9-2 Food Pantry Free Lunches	<b>6</b> <i>9:00 &amp; 10:30 YMCA Fitness</i>	<b>7</b> <i>5:00 Line Dancing</i>	<b>8</b> <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b> <i>10:30 YMCA Fitness</i>	<b>9</b> 8:00 3M's 11-12:30 Food Pantry Free Lunches & Nick's Closet
<b>10</b> 8:30 Service 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Service	<b>11</b> <i>9:00 &amp; 10:30 YMCA Fitness</i>	<b>12</b> 9-2 Food Pantry Free Lunches  9:00 Quilting	<b>13</b> <i>9:00 &amp; 10:30 YMCA Fitness</i>	<b>14</b> <i>5:00 Line Dancing</i>	<b>15</b> <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b> Echo Articles Due  <i>10:30 YMCA Fitness</i>	<b>16</b> 8:00 3M's 11-12:30 Food Pantry Free Lunches & Nick's Closet
<b>17</b> <b>Children's Msg.</b> 8:30 Service 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Service	<b>18</b> <i>9:00 &amp; 10:30 YMCA Fitness</i>	<b>19</b> 9-2 Food Pantry Free Lunches  9:00 Quilting	<b>20</b> <i>9:00 &amp; 10:30 YMCA Fitness</i>	<b>21</b> <i>5:00 Line Dancing</i>	<b>22</b> <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b> <i>10:30 YMCA Fitness</i>	<b>23</b> 8:00 3M's 11-12:30 Food Pantry Free Lunches & Nick's Closet
<b>24</b> <b>Christ the King Sunday</b> 8:30 Service 9:45 Sunday School 10:00 Monthly Mission Focus 11:00 Service	<b>25</b> <i>9:00 &amp; 10:30 YMCA Fitness</i>	<b>26</b> 9-2 Food Pantry Free Lunches	<b>27</b> <i>9:00 &amp; 10:30 YMCA Fitness</i> <b>12-5 Blood Drive</b>	<b>28</b> <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b> 	<b>29</b> <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b> <i>10:30 YMCA Fitness</i>	<b>30</b>

Key: *Italics* = Non-GSLC Programs & Events



# Serving from the Heart



DATE/ TIME	ASSISTING MINISTER	COMMUNION ASSISTANT	USHERS	GREETERS	READER	ACOLYTE	HOSPITALITY
11/3 8:30	Amy Gallagher	Katrina Pavolino			Amy Gallagher		
11:00	Paul Mechling	Joanne Mechling		Mary Lou Moisio	Paul Mechling		Michelle Logan
11/10 8:30	Rich Tulino	Katrina Pavolino	Shirley and Peggy Harco	Shirley and Peggy Harco	Amy Gallagher		
11:00		Mark Lytle			Mark Lytle		
11/17 8:30	Jen Best	Katrina Pavolino		Nancy Altman			
11:00	Jen Best		Michelle Logan		Susan Tan		
11/24 8:30	Rich Tulino	Katrina Pavolino		Katrina Pavolino	Rich Tulino		
11:00		Glenda Betteridge	Greg & Glenda Betteridge		Greg Betteridge		

**NOVEMBER ALTAR GUILD:**  
Ruth Brown, Susan Combs, Katrina Pavolino, Mary Lou Moisio, Janelle Cole

**DECEMBER ALTAR GUILD:**  
Ruth Brown, Katrina Pavolino, Stephanie Newsome, Barb Talan

*Good Shepherd Lutheran Church*

876 Grove Street  
Conneaut, OH 44030  
440-599-8908 / [www.gslcc.org](http://www.gslcc.org)

**Worship Times**

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

**Office Hours**

Monday-Thursday – 8:30 am to 1:30 pm

**Pastoral Staff**

Rev. Joshua Krenz, Pastor  
[gslcpastor@gwcmail.net](mailto:gslcpastor@gwcmail.net)

**Office Staff**

Jennifer Best, Administrative Assistant  
[goodshepherd@gwcmail.net](mailto:goodshepherd@gwcmail.net)

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