

# 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

#### **AUGUST 2025**

From the thoughts of the pastor...

While doing the ECHO Big Churchy Word for this month, I realized what I have to say about bible is more than just in the word and how the history of what we have and use and how we relate to the bible is important. So, journey with me as we learn the history of the bible as a collection of books, beginning with the Hebrew Scriptures (aka the Old Testament).

As with many religions and sacred texts, the bible began as stories and songs orally told from generation to generation. Oral tradition at the time of early Israelites and Caninities was incredibly important to keep the story and the songs the same. But an inherent "telephone game" was bound to happen from generation to generation. Eventually, the oral tradition was written on stone or clay tablets, silver or copper, and/or papyrus scrolls. As stone and clay were difficult to use and a single time use, silver and copper were for highly praised uses, the main material used for writing the oral tradition was papyrus. Unfortunately, due to the nature of papyrus, many of the originals did not survive. What we have in artifacts like the Dead Sea Scrolls are copies of the originals.

The original manuscripts – the original writings from oral tradition – were probably written in a cuneiform pictograph type of writing (one of the earliest forms of writing and used for commers and other record keeping). However, when the Kingdom of Judah (and Israel) were exiled to Babylon, the newer form of writing (the square script – or Aramaic script) began to emerge. This script is similar to modern Hebrew but with exceptions such as: no spaces between words, vowel signs were absent – and vowels were omitted in some cases, and the writing was more curved rather than the square Hebrew we have today.

By the time of the Dead Sea Scrolls (c. 3<sup>rd</sup> century BCE (the 200s BCE)) spaces were starting to make their way in between words; but vowels and vowel markers were still missing; it wouldn't be until around the 8<sup>th</sup> century CE (the 900s CE) that vowel markers were added.

These copies were done with extreme care to preserve the original oral tradition. Only a certain group of people – the Levites and scribes – were charged with maintaining the texts. Those making the copies would preserve the text as best as possible changing the text by changing the script, updating archaic forms, and making corrections. However, humans make mistakes, even when using extreme care. And an updated script from the more curved script to the harder square script might change the letter and/or meaning of the word; similarly, when adding vowel or vowel markers. But great care was taken to reduce these mistakes, even debating over a single mark made.

Regardless of oral tradition or written form, these stories and songs were/are still sacred, authoritative religious texts. The priests, Levites, and scribes began to compile these texts into various collections. These are now called biblical canons – official collection of scriptures. Now canon – "C-A-N-O-N" is not the same as cannon – "C-A-N-O-N" but pronounced the same. Cannon (with the double n) is a large gun; but canon (with the single n) is "a general law, rule, principle, or criterion by which something

is judged; a collection or list of sacred books accepted as genuine." Thus, the biblical canon are the accepted genuine books.

These first five books – Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy – were accepted as Jewish canon by the 5<sup>th</sup> century BCE (the 400s BCE). In the 3<sup>rd</sup> century BCE (the 200s BCE), a second collection of narrative histories and prophesies called the Nevi'im (prophets) was canonized (made official). This collection is: Joshua, Judges, Samuel, Kings, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai, Zachariah, and Malachi. Finally, sometime between the 2<sup>nd</sup> century BCE (the 100s BCE) and the 2<sup>nd</sup> century CE (the 100s CE), a third collection was canonized called the Ketuvim (writings) and includes: Psalms, Proverbs, Job, Song of Songs, Ruth, Lamentations, Ecclesiastes, Ester, Daniel, Ezra and Nehemiah, and Chronicles.

These three collections together form the Hebrew Bible or the TaNaKh (abbreviations of Torah, Nevi'im, and Ketuvim). While the books of the TaNaKh were canonized, various versions (like our modern English versions) existed; the three main versions are the Septuagint, the Masoretic Text, and the Samaritan Pentateuch.

The Septuagint is considered the first translation of the Hebrew scriptures (c. 3<sup>rd</sup> century BCE to 132 BCE). According to Jewish tradition, Ptolemy II Philadelphus (the Greek Pharaoh of Egypt) sent seventy-two translators – six from each of the Twelve Tribes of Israel – to Alexandria to translate the TaNaKh from Biblical Hebrew to Koine Greek to include in his library (whether there were indeed 6 from each Tribe or just seventy-two translators is debatable). Legend says these seventy-two translators were each placed into a separate room without revealing why they were in Alexandria, told to write the Torah of Moses (and then the rest of the Hebrew Scriptures); each of the seventy-two translations were identical. This was seen as a great act of God and the Septuagint became the official Greek Old Testament.

The next major version is the Masoretic Text and is the authoritative Hebrew (and Aramaic) text of the 24 books of the Hebrew Bible. This version began by a group of Jewish scribe-scholars who were primarily in the Jewish centers of Tiberias and Jerusalem and Mesopotamia called the Masoretes (Masters of the Tradition). They began their work around the end of the 5<sup>th</sup> century CE (400s CE) through the 10<sup>th</sup> century CE (900s CE). Each group compiled a system of pronunciation and grammatical guides in the form of diacritical notes (marks added to letters to indicate pronunciation like é or ö or ĩ). This group also standardized the paragraph and verse divisions and how to chant specific sections of the scriptures. The work done by these Masoretes exists to this day in a standard TaNaKh.

The third major version is the Samaritan Pentateuch which only contains the Torah as their canon. The oldest known existing copies date to c. 1100 CE and are maintained by the Samaritan community.

Each version was originally done on papyrus scrolls. Yet by the 7<sup>th</sup> century CE (600s CE), the first codices were being produced. These codices were made by taking a single sheet of papyrus, folding in half to form a page, then assembling multiple pages together to form a "book". In 1488, the first complete printed press version of the Hebrew Bible was produced.

While we still call the Old Testament the Hebrew Scriptures, a genuine TaNaKh is written in modern Hebrew. Today, a parallel version with Hebrew and English is available for study and the general Jewish public; but only the Torah is used during worship services in synagogues and are solely Hebrew scrolls.

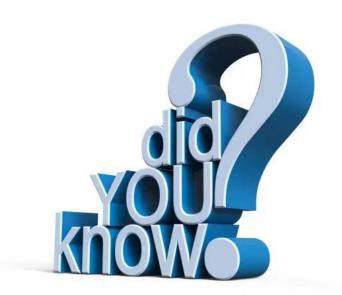
-

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Google Dictionary – canon.

Each synagogue – as financially available – has a Torah scroll. These scrolls are hand-written by a pious scribe in the original Hebrew and read from on a regular basis, much like our own scriptures. Unlike our worship services, the reader in the synagogue reads only one "lesson" for that day. Sometimes, rather quite often, various calendric variables fall into place where three "lessons" of the Torah are read on the same day. For synagogues that are financially able, they have three Torah scrolls – those that do not, use the same scroll.

Next month, we will look at the New Testament, including some books that are not in our normal Protestant bibles, and how we get to the various English versions of our Bibles.

Amen+ السلام عليكم (Peace be upon you) The Reverend Joshua Krenz The Reverend Joshua Krenz



Did You Know...

Outside the pastor's office are three charts produced from the Useful Charts website and YouTube Channel. The three that are hanging are: Biblical Family Tree, Christian Denomination Family Tree, and Timeline of the Bible. Each chart is beautifully colored and highly educational.



#### ECHO Word August 2025

Last month we seemed to finish our candle list (except for Advent candles which we will do in November). We now are moving on to the books of the church.

**Bible** (Gr. *Biblia*, "books") The canonical writings accepted as normative for a religious faith. In Christianity, the OT (Hebrew Scriptures) and the NT constitute the Bible. Theologically, the Bible is acknowledged in the church as a revelation from God.<sup>2</sup>

As we see in our definition, the bible is not a single book, but a collection of books, each with a potentially different author. The other word that is used historically with the first "bibles" is:

**Codex (pl. codices)** (Lat. "a book", "a writing") Sheets of vellum or papyrus laid on top of each other and sewn together to for a book, first used in the 1<sup>st</sup> Century CE. The codex replaced scrolls and is the form in which many NT manuscripts are found.<sup>3</sup>

Our bibles are modern codices with different books bound together to form a single book. In the first century, scrolls were the primary way to carry, and store written documents. Prior to writing on vellum (animal hide) or papyrus (a thick paper), the written word was stored on clay tablets. The oldest known record of something mentioned in the bible is the Tel Dan Stele (piece of stone with "House of David" inscribed on it) dating back to 840 BCE.

Our next oldest mention of something in the bible is written on a scroll called the Ketef Hinnom Scrolls (also known as the Ketef Hinnom amulets) with verses we find in our bibles from Numbers; this dates back to around 600 BCE. These are made from silver, most likely poured on a stone etching.

Then we move to the most well-known discovery of the Dead Sea Scrolls. The dates of the scrolls go as far back as around 250 BCE and as recent as 70 CE. These are written or etched on parchment (paper), papyrus, and copper. These scrolls include text from Isaiah, Psalms, Deuteronomy, and 21 other books of our bibles.

By the mid 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Centuries CE, books of the bible were starting to get compiled together, the first of which is the Codex Vaticanus (the oldest complete copy of the entire bible in Greek, c. 350CE). Other codices were compiled at around this time too such as, Codex Bodmer III (earliest biblical manuscript in Coptic c. 350 CE), Codex Sangallensis (earliest manuscript of the Vulgate – or Latin Bible – c. 450 CE), the British Library MS-14470 (earliest manuscript of the Peshitta – or Syriac bible – c. 450

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> McKim, Donald K. *The Westminster Dictionary of Theological Terms* 2 Ed. Westminster John Knox Press: Louisville, Kentucky, 2014.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Ibid.

CE), the Garima Gospels (earliest biblical manuscript from Ethiopia c. 500 CE), and the Wulfila Bible (earliest manuscript of the Gothic Bible c. 550 CE). In c. 1000 CE, the Codex Lenigradensis Masoretic Text was written and is the Oldest complete copy of the entire Tanakh (Old Testament) in Hebrew.

The newsletter article from the pastor has how a bible is translated and compiled.

## August Birthdays

Amiah Berry David Heinonen Dolores Pelow Judy Barch Lori Punkar Natalie Wood Stephanie Newsome



Phyllis Waid John Chapin Barb Talan Howard Seavey



#### **ATTENDANCE**

6/29 43 7/6 47 7/13 44 7/20 45



#### TREASURER'S REPORT JUNE 2025

	A		В		С		D	Е		F		G		Н
_	^		ь	_			U	-		-		9		п
1	GENERAL FUND	BAL	ANCE AS OF	3	30-Jun-25									\$1,651
2	MONTH		OFFERING INCOME		OTHER NCOME	II	YTD NCOME	%ESTIMATE BUDGETED REVENUE	E	XPENSE		YEAR TO DATE		STIMATED PERATING COST
3	January	\$	17,420	\$	884	\$	18,304	117.2%	\$	13,770	\$	13,770		85.5%
4	February	\$	8,149	\$	1,274	\$	27,728	89.2%	\$	14,636	\$	28,407		84.3%
5	March	\$	10,014	\$	747	\$	38,489	81.5%	\$	20,915	\$	49,322		100.3%
6	April	\$	8,483	\$	634	\$	47,606	74.3%	\$	16,106	\$	65,428		102.1%
7	May	\$	12,139	\$	525	\$	60,270	75.8%	\$	12,981	\$	78,409		95.9%
8	June	\$	8,867	\$	551	\$	69,688	73.3%	\$	15,433	\$	93,842		96.8%
9	July													
	August													
	September													
	October													
_	November													
14	December								EVI	DENICEN				
4.5	Need \$16,035 ea					_	(25.225)			PENSE V	,	(2.000)		
15	Mo.	5	192,425/year			\$	(25,335)		воі	OGET	\$	(3,060)		
16	0 1 1			_								5/31/2025		6/30/2025
17	Capital Improveme			ıd							\$	939,786	\$	944,870
18										e	40.700	•	44.040	
	Family Center Endo	wme	ent Fund Balar	ice							\$	40,722	\$	41,949
20	Adjusted O. Edusanta			_								407.070		407.404
21	Mission & Educatio	n En	dowment Fun	a							\$	127,272	\$	127,421
23	Thrivent Fund										æ	14,638	\$	15,188
24	Inrivent Fund										\$	14,030	Ф	15,100
25	Capital Improveme	nt									\$		\$	
26	Capital Improveme	nt									Ф		Ф	
	Youth Missions Fun	d									\$	8,484	\$	8,484
28	TOULIT WISSIONS FUI	u									φ	0,404	φ	0,404
-	Abiding Memorial										\$	6,619	\$	6,644
30	ADJUING WEITIONAL										Φ	0,018	Ψ	0,044
_	Detroit Street										\$	995	\$	901
32	Detroit Street										Ψ.	555	Ψ.	501
-	Sandusky St										\$	3,488	\$	2,778
34	suridusky st										Ψ	3,400	Ψ,	2,110
35	Capital Improveme	nt F	ndowment Fu	nd U	sage for O	per	ating Expe	enses			\$		\$	5,000
36	press map or enter				2382 101 0		- Sing Enpi				-		_	3,000
37		109	6 Biblical Tithe	to S	Synod								\$	
38		207	- anancai marc		,,,,,,								*	
39						-	tanı B	BAUT TVO	200	ver				
						ت	cacy R	acut, Tre	изи	ror				
40														
41														

#### NEWS & UPDATES



Wings, celery, carrots \$1.50/wing

August 6<sup>th</sup> 4-7pm

#### Volunteer for D-Day Parking



Wednesday, August 13<sup>th</sup> Thursday, August 14<sup>th</sup> Friday, August 15<sup>th</sup> Saturday, August 16<sup>th</sup>

Any amount of time you can offer is appreciated!

Sign-up sheet is in the Narthex.

# AUGUST 15<sup>TH</sup> 4:00-7:30pm



Volunteers needed; sign-up sheets in the Narthex



August 24<sup>th</sup> at 12:30pm Bobbi's Retirement Party



Sunday, August 31st

Outdoor Service at 10a.m. HopeWood Shores- Camp Luther

Sign-up sheets in Narthex to help with food/grilling, games, and moving tables/chairs





9:45-10:45am



Registration forms are available in the Narthex, office, email, & website.

Meet in the Education Wing

Volunteer opportunities available





# Books of the Bible Old and New Testament

LYRMMXNICTXKRSOMAHFKMWYGMICAHTR LRRJRTKAOXIHCALAMTKT1KHEMDTKTS LXKRTKDZYGLDMNNJQRQTZRSDTNYKZGE KGMLDWMYMGOJZMGXTDHABLAJOEMGRT EVELATIONOASKGPNHTMQNF BREVORPCJWNHSSNHOJ1R1NF TUFI IANSXOAIZR2RBN TMKLNLRLATTRTB RH TF TRC BHWDC FH PVAHEBREWSMAKEHNZPKNEBPAS HHRWNNHXVHSSHHETVSRL JSVNTNK1PRL AKMMORBZ 2 A A N S U L U K E E V S H PAE IISANMKEDL SGIVEKO AMWTDYOEXRHAAYIRCUDMVLXAVTH ENNGMTNAALGJSXHJNBGROOMRAC HQJAEHHIOALMBIT TYVTBNDUJLYRLL EHNRNCMNGFRNMTVKNT C QIUERAKF NE E IQXJXZPNHBDI T LAS JGM J B N C E N H M W V R CNL ZRAAT GQKTEBFR V F N E N X C Q F K R B D Q A L J N L O S R H Z S Q Q S O O TSNAIHTNIROC1FCMLENWLHGN ZTMNN2LSZSHLNI ZRTFNSHBHDHNMDL ZASM RBQRUTHWJONNT VKMMCNJEREDOC HERLSLKENBUFL T AKGNIWBSL T T REBMUNDKPEKPNZOTMHFNINDRKQEKQE **JMJINROSXUHEWTHXJS** TVAHO C I DAM1ROD TLRENJRZORK T MNEKKECFRHHKHNE X IGLL TKCPPVOCJHJR2 RIL TAINXMMLX2EKMBJLWONONMLVV VROYUNHHGVYHTOM I T 1 BK 3 T Q N B D H R V H L MBJSQKPSTLAMENTATIONSWBTLLXNZXR

www.churchhousepuzzles.com Copyright @ 2011

Ezra

2 Samuel

1 Chronicles	2 Thessalonians	Galatians	Jude	Philippians
1 Corinthians	2 Timothy	Genesis	Judges	Proverbs
1 John	3 John	Habakkuk	Lamentations	Psalms
1 Kings	Acts	Haggai	Leviticus	Revelation
1 Peter	Amos	Hebrews	Luke	Romans
1 Samuel	Colossians	Hosea	Malachi	Ruth
1 Thessalonians	Daniel	Isaiah	Mark	Song of Solomon
1 Timothy	Deuteronomy	James	Matthew	Titus
2 Chronicles	Ecclesiastes	Jeremiah	Micah	Zechariah
2 Corinthians	Ephesians	Job	Nahum	Zephaniah
2 John	Esther	Joel	Nehemiah	
2 Kings	Exodus	John	Numbers	
2 Peter	Ezekiel	Jonah	Obadiah	

Joshua

Philemon

### **Committee News**

#### **Christian Education**

**Christian Education Classes** will resume September 7<sup>th</sup> at 9:45am. Signup sheets will be in the Narthex. If you're interested in volunteering, see Jen. **Adult Sunday School** will start in the fall. The theme is Creeds and Councils of the Early Christian Church: a history of the Nicene Creed and the 1<sup>st</sup> few ecumenical church councils.

We will <u>tentatively</u> have a get-together at **Brant's** at the end of August and a **Soup Sale** fundraiser in September. Pay attention to the weekly announcements for updates.

#### **Evangelism**

Join us for **Wing Night** August 6<sup>th</sup> from 4-7pm! Enjoy wings for \$1.50 a wing. Drinks will be available for purchase as well.

**D-Day Parking** will be August 13<sup>th</sup>- 16<sup>th</sup>. There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex if you'd like to volunteer. Any amount of time you can offer is appreciated.

The **Basket Raffle** is October 4<sup>th</sup>. Tickets will be available in September. Basket donations appreciated.

Candy Crawl will be at the end of October. Donations of candy will be needed.

**Fishes & Loaves** – Hours are Tuesdays from 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. and Saturdays 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Food Pantry, Free Lunches, and Nick's Closet will be closed August 12-16<sup>th</sup>. For food emergencies, call 440-381-1018. Volunteers are always welcome to assist.

#### **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!

#### **Social Ministries**

Volunteers welcomed to serve **hospitality** after each service. See the sign-up sheets in the Narthex.

The **Fish Fry** is on August 15<sup>th</sup> from 4-7:30pm. There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex if you'd like to volunteer.

#### **Worship and Music**

We need help organizing the archive room. See Pastor for more info.

We give thanks to Bobbi Boles for her 30 years of service!!! Her **retirement party** will be on August 24<sup>th</sup> at 12:30pm.

The **church picnic** is August 31<sup>st</sup> at Hopewood Shores- Camp Luther. Service starts at 10am with potluck picnic to follow.

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

# August 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY		
		July 29 9-2 Food Pantry	9:00 & 10:30 YMCA Fitness	July 31 OFFICE CLOSED 5:00 Line Dancing	1 OFFICE CLOSED 10:30 YMCA Fitness	11-12:30 Food Pantry Free Lunches & Nick's Closet		
<b>3</b> 8:30 Service 11:00 Service	9:00 & 10:30 YMCA Fitness	5 9-2 Food Pantry & Free Lunches	9:00 & 10:30 YMCA Fitness Wing Night 4-7pm	<b>7</b> 5:00 Line Dancing	8 OFFICE CLOSED 10:30 YMCA Fitness	9 11-12:30 Food Pantry Free Lunches & Nick's Closet		
8:30 Service 11:00 Service	9:00 & 10:30 YMCA Fitness	12	9:00 & 10:30 YMCA Fitness D-Day parking	14 5:00 Line Dancing D-Day parking	15 OFFICE CLOSED 10:30 YMCA Fitness D-Day parking Fish Fry 4-730	16  D-Day parking		
17 8:30 Service 11:00 Service	9:00 & 10:30 YMCA Fitness	9-2 Food Pantry & Free Lunches	9:00 & 10:30 YMCA Fitness Echo Articles Due	5:00 Line Dancing	22 OFFICE CLOSED 10:30 YMCA Fitness	23  11-12:30 Food Pantry Free Lunches & Nick's Closet		
8:30 Service 11:00 Service 12:30 Bobbi's Retirement Party Blessing of Backpacks	9:00 & 10:30 YMCA Fitness	9-2 Food Pantry & Free Lunches	9:00 & 10:30 YMCA Fitness	28 5:00 Line Dancing	29 OFFICE CLOSED  10:30 YMCA Fitness	30 11-12:30 Food Pantry Free Lunches & Nick's Closet		
31 Church Picnic 10:00 Service at Hopewood Shores/Camp Luther	Sept 1 Offices Closed- Labor Day	Sept 2  9-2 Food Pantry & Free Lunches	Sept 3  9:00 & 10:30  YMCA Fitness	Sept 4 5:00 Line Dancing	ak			

DATE/	<b>ASSISTING</b>	COMMUNION					
TIME	MINISTER	ASSISTANT	USHERS	GREETERS	READER	ACOLYTE	HOSPITALITY
8/3/2025 8:30	Rich Tulino			Nancy Altman	Rich Tulino		
11:00		Glenda Betteridge	Greg and Glenda Betteridge	Mary Lou Moisio	Greg Betteridge		
8/10/2025 8:30	Amy Gallagher	Katrina Pavolino			Amy Gallagher		
11:00	Deac. Heidi	Mark Lytle		Mary Lou Moisio	Mark Lytle		
8/17/2025 8:30	Jen Best			Nancy Altman			
11:00	Jen Best				Susan Tan		
8/24/2025 8:30		Katrina Pavolino		Katrina Pavolino			
11:00			Michelle				Bobbi's Retire- ment Party
8/31/2025 10am	Deac. Heidi			Jerry Lampela			Church Picnic at Camp Luther

## **AUGUST ALTAR GUILD:**

Susan Combs, Michelle Flower, Katrina Pavolino, Kelly Anthony, Barb Talan, Susan Tan



## SEPTEMBER ALTAR GUILD:

Susan Combs, Michelle Flower, Katrina Pavolino, Kelly Anthony, Robin Bryant, Barb Talan, Susan Tan

#### 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 – 8:30 am to 1:30 pm

#### **Pastoral Staff**

Rev. Joshua Krenz, Pastor gslcpastor@gwcmail.net

#### **Office Staff**

Jennifer Best, Administrative Assistant goodshepherd@gwcmail.net

A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

