



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 2025

From the thoughts of the pastor...

Over the last few months, we have learned how scripture has progressed through the centuries as well as some authorship clarified – or not so clarified – especially in the New Testament. However, the only books of the Bible that we discussed, were the books included in the *Protestant Bible*...the *Roman Catholic, Slavonic, and Greek Bible* has a few more books, which we – and scholars – commonly call the Apocrypha or, more aptly, the Old Testament Apocrypha.

All the Apocrypha following churches (Roman Catholic, Slavonic, and Greek) include: Tobit, Judith, Additions to the Book of Esther, Wisdom of Solomon, Ecclesiasticus (aka Wisdom of Jesus, Son of Sirach), Baruch, The Letter of Jeremiah (Baruch Ch. 6), additions to the Greek version of Daniel, and 1&2 Maccabees. The Greek and Slavonic bibles also include: 1 Esdras (2 Esdras in Slavonic, 3 Esdras in Appendix to the Vulgate (first Latin translation of the bible)), Prayer of Manasseh, Psalm 151, and 3 Maccabees. The Slavonic bibles further include: 2 Esdras (4 Esdras in the Vulgate Appendix); while the Greek bibles include: 4 Maccabees.

As you can see, there are far more books of the bible than the 66 in the *Protestant Bibles* – our bibles. And these are only the ones included in bibles at all; there are dozens – if not hundreds – of “scriptures” not included in the bible from both the Old and New Testament times. Some New Testament books that are not present in any bible are: Epistle of Barnabas, Shepherd of Hermas, Acts of Paul, Gospel of Peter, Apocalypse of Peter, Didache, 1 Clement, and The Gospel According to Hebrews. Finally (or at least finally for our purposes), we have the so-called Gnostic Texts which include: the Gospel of Thomas, the Gospel of Mary, the Gospel of Philip, the Gospel of Truth, the Gospel of Judas, the Apocryphon of John, the Hypostasis of Archons, and the Sophia of Jesus Christ.

So, we must ask ourselves this question: why were some scriptures cleared and some scriptures rejected?

The primary answer comes down to usage. In the centuries following the resurrection and ascension of Christ, many books were written...but not all were used widely within the Christian community. The books that we have in our *Protestant Bibles* (the Old Testament – Hebrew Scriptures – the Letters of Paul, the other letters, and the gospels) were the books that were widely used, that were most commonly used. While other books – like the Gnostic Texts – were used in some areas, they weren't used very commonly.

Now legion (and misrepresented history) says the competing books of the canon were placed on the altar at the Council of Nicaea and the ones that fell off were rejected from the canon. This is a fictitious anecdote that was popularized by Voltaire (a French philosopher and writer who was known for his criticism of Christianity in the early 1700s). There are no records or any other historical facts to back up this claim by Voltaire.

Another misunderstanding in history is the Council of Nicaea determined the biblical canon. Again, Voltaire also popularized this story as there are no records of the biblical canon even being discussed at the Council of Nicaea. For the most part, the canon was nearly complete and set. It was Emperor Constantine who, in 331 CE (6 years after the Council of Nicaea), commissioned bibles to be produced which was the catalyst to set the canon officially.

Most scholars believe the biblical canon was finally closed (set without changes) during the Council of Rome in 382 CE. When Martin Luther created the first German-language bible in 1534 CE, he included the Apocrypha but as a separate section after the Old Testament but before the New Testament (which is where the Apocrypha is located today). However, the books of the Apocrypha were not listed in the table of contents as Luther thought these were good books to read but not equal to scripture.

The bible considered to be the first English bible was the Tyndale Bible but only included the Pentateuch and the Book of Jonah. The bible considered to be the first complete English translation was the Coverdale Bible of 1535, which, like Luther's German Bible, placed the Apocrypha in a separate section. The infamous King James Version was produced in 1611 using some of Tyndale's work as well as Coverdale's work. The bible translation used at Good Shepherd under Pastor Krenz is the New Revised Standard Version created in 1989. A minor update was made recently which has turned the NRSV to the NRSVue (New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition).

Our biblical journey has come to a conclusion but that doesn't mean it ends. Today, modern scholars are using newly found manuscripts, new ideas in translations, new understandings of the times our stories take place to give us a better understanding of the message God wants us to hear.

Our personal biblical paths are going to be different; no one person says that a certain scripture means a certain thing. Reading the bible, immersing yourselves in the bible, is a life-long process towards understanding. Even scholars who have studied the bible their whole lives find new meaning, new interpretations, new ideas from these ancient texts. I guess that is why it is the greatest story ever told and the best-selling book for centuries.

Amen+

السلام عليكم

(Peace be upon you)

The Reverend Joshua Krenz

The Reverend Joshua Krenz

The Big Churchy Word



Missal/missalette (Lat. *Missalis*, from *missa*, “mass”) Book containing what is sung, chanted, or recited in the Roman Catholic Mass. The Sunday Missal provided materials for Sunday and holy days. The Daily Missal provides materials for every day of the year.¹

In essence, the missal is a big hymnal with a few exceptions: there are no hymns in the missal, and everything is printed fully. At Good Shepherd, we don’t use the missal too much except for the seasons where Pastor Krenz decides to stay within a single setting. But we do have a missal from both the Lutheran Book of Worship (the green hymnals in the pews) and the Evangelical Lutheran Worship book. When Pastor Krenz does decide to use the missal, he prefers the ELW missal as this is the current hymnal for the ELCA.

But why these at all?

Prior to the use of bulletins that include the whole service, churches would print little sheets that have page numbers and hymn numbers on them with the congregation expected to use the hymnals in the pews. Good Shepherd did this for a long time – it is the more traditional worship style. And since the pew hymnals do not include everything for all settings, the missal was used as the leaders guide. But we’ve gone away from using hymnals in the worship service because: a) hymnals can be cumbersome books to hold; b) visitors to a church might have a hard time following the service within the hymnal; c) cost of new hymnals vs cost of printing is great; and d) it limits the worship services to a singular style which doesn’t allow for any new settings or new resources to be used.

We have been introducing new music – familiar tunes with new words – that have come out of the new hymnal supplement *All Creation Sings*, and we are looking at using these new settings. If we stayed only within the capabilities of the missal, both you and I would get bored and perhaps not wish to participate in worship services as much.

We won’t get rid of the hymnals or the missals as we will continue to use them. What we might consider is when Pastor Krenz decides to stay within a single setting, we can put the page number and hymn number in the bulletin for those who would like to use the hymnal for that traditional worship service style.

¹ McKim, Donald K. *The Westminster Dictionary of Theological Terms* 2 Ed. Westminster John Knox Press: Louisville, Kentucky, 2014.

November Birthdays



Taylor Racut
Pamela Anderson
Pearl Ann Curtis
Judy Pew
Susan Tan

Carol Allds
Cheryl Poff
Jerry Janco
Kathy Mills
Paul Brown
Susan McCarron

Bronwen Fill
Dave Punkar
Ron Young
AnnaMae Cameron
Dan Patriarco



ATTENDANCE

9/28	46
10/5	56
10/12	63
10/19	61
10/26	66



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 at 440-599-8908. To add someone to the prayer chain, you can call Betty at 440-265-2452.

TREASURER'S REPORT SEPTEMBER 2025

GENERAL FUND	BALANCE AS OF	30-Sep-25					\$178	
MONTH	OFFERING INCOME	OTHER INCOME	YTD INCOME	%ESTIMATE BUDGETED REVENUE	EXPENSE	YEAR TO DATE	% ESTIMATED OPERATING COST	
January	\$ 17,420	\$ 884	\$ 18,304	117.2%	\$ 13,770	\$ 13,770	85.5%	
February	\$ 8,149	\$ 1,274	\$ 27,728	89.2%	\$ 14,636	\$ 28,407	84.3%	
March	\$ 10,014	\$ 747	\$ 38,489	81.5%	\$ 20,915	\$ 49,322	100.3%	
April	\$ 8,483	\$ 634	\$ 47,606	74.3%	\$ 16,330	\$ 65,652	102.4%	
May	\$ 12,139	\$ 525	\$ 60,270	75.8%	\$ 12,981	\$ 78,633	96.1%	
June	\$ 8,867	\$ 551	\$ 69,688	73.3%	\$ 15,433	\$ 94,066	97.1%	
July	\$ 7,794	\$ 450	\$ 77,933	70.5%	\$ 13,890	\$ 107,956	96.7%	
August	\$ 8,605	\$ 1,159	\$ 87,697	69.6%	\$ 12,223	\$ 120,179	93.5%	
September	\$ 6,508	\$ 401	\$ 94,606	66.9%	\$ 16,170	\$ 136,349	94.6%	
October								
November								
December								
Need \$16,035 ea Mo.	\$192,425/year		\$ (46,826)		EXPENSE V BUDGET	\$ (7,778)		
						8/31/2025	9/30/2025	
Capital Improvement Endowment Fund						\$ 949,473	\$ 961,217	
Community Involvement Endowment Fund Balance						\$ 44,496	\$ 45,023	
Mission & Education Endowment Fund						\$ 129,226	\$ 131,686	
Thrivent Fund						\$ 15,626	\$ 16,000	
Capital Improvement						\$ -	\$ -	
Youth Missions Fund						\$ 8,484	\$ 8,484	
Abiding Memorial						\$ 7,057	\$ 7,157	
Detroit Street						\$ 105	\$ 12	
Sandusky St						\$ 4,166	\$ 5,856	
Capital Improvement Endowment Fund Usage for Operating Expenses YTD						\$ 12,000	\$ 17,800	
	5% Biblical Tithe to Synod					\$ 389.72	\$ 395.50	
			Stacy Racut, Treasurer					

NEWS & UPDATES

You are invited to
**lift up the names of
your loved ones**
who died this past year.

Forms in the Narthex,
return by Oct 26th.

All Saint's Sunday is Nov 2nd.
Please join us for worship.



Election Day Bake Sale

Volunteers needed
to make baked good, soup, or help sell the items

November 4th 6:30am- 7:30pm

**Pastor is on vacation
November 5th - 13th**



QUILT RAFFLE

Tickets:

1 for \$1 6 for \$5 14 for \$10

Order through the office
or through the Square link

1st Monthly Drawing- November 9th



Planning begins now.

If you're interested in volunteering,
Contact Jen or Michelle.

Remember to turn in commitment cards

BECAUSE
He Gave
WE GIVE

COMMITMENT SUNDAY

GSLC SHIRTS

\$15 for short sleeve

\$20 for long sleeve

Additional \$2 for 2x, \$3 for 3x



Free lunches & Food Pantry

Tuesdays 9:00am–2:00pm

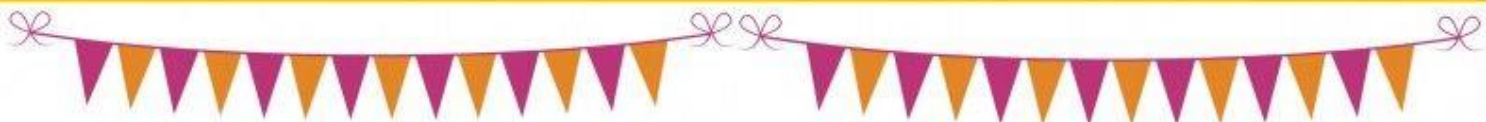
Saturdays 11:00am-12:30pm

Volunteers always welcome

No lunches November 4th or 22nd. Closed on November 29th

For food emergencies, call 440-381-1018





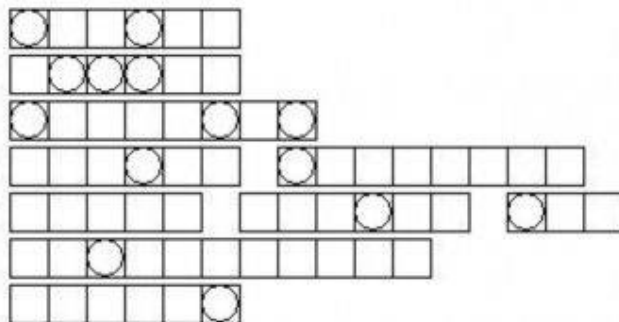
Thanksgiving Puzzles

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z

24 13 22 6 23 10 19 2 17 1 13 2 6 22 6 8 20 23 10 13 2 24



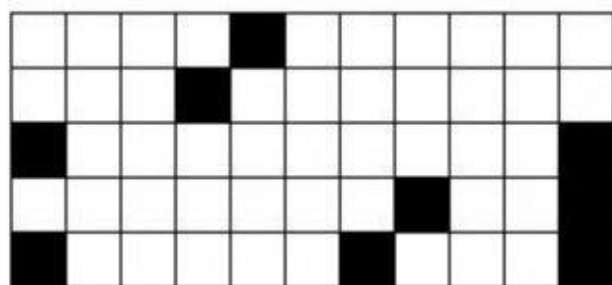
RETUYK
NEINDR
FTFSGUIN
SAEMDH SEAPOTTO
TEWES TOPTAO IEP
RANERCESRIB
LAIFYM



 H V G

Unscramble each of the clue words.

Take the letters that appear in ☐ boxes and unscramble them for the final message.



B H T O W
I R E S R K A G S
A O R E A D I N A K
F T V E U N H W N Y N
G L L E I S Y N O N S



PRESENTED BY: DAILY DISH MAGAZINE

Committee News

Christian Education

Christian Education Classes have resumed. It's not too late to start bringing the kids. Classes are 9:45-10:45am. If you're interested in volunteering, see Jen. We really need a substitute in case one of our teachers can't make it, so we don't have to cancel classes.

Adult Sunday School has resumed as well. It's not too late to join the discussion. The theme is Creeds and Councils of the Early Christian Church: a history of the Nicene Creed and the 1st few ecumenical church councils.

Thank you to everyone who volunteered with the Candy Crawl and to those who donated candy.

Our Christmas Party will be December 13th from 4-6pm. If you'd like to volunteer to run a station: building a snow man from ice cream, helping kids frost cookies, making playdoh, wrapping or passing out presents, etc- see Jen.

Evangelism

I would like to personally **thank** all the volunteers that helped with the Basket Raffle. With all your support and help, it made the event very successful, bringing in about \$3000.

Baked goods, soups, and volunteers to help with the **election day fundraiser**.

There are many opportunities to volunteer to help with the **Corpus Christi/GSLC Thanksgiving Dinner** on November 22nd. We need volunteers November 20th-22nd. Sign-up sheet is in the Narthex. See Michelle for more information.

Purse Bingo is coming up in February. If you're interested in helping, see Michelle or Jen.

Volunteers are needed for unloading trucks.

Fishes & Loaves – 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. Volunteers are always welcome to assist. There will be no lunches on November 4th or 22nd. Lunches, Food Pantry and Nick's Closet will be closed on November 29th.

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.

Worship and Music

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

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



November 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
OCT 26 8:30 Service 9:45 Christian Education 11:00 Service Reformation-wear red	OCT 27 9:00 & 10:30 <i>YMCA Fitness</i>	OCT 28 9-2 Food Pantry & Free Lunches Quilting 9-11	OCT 29 9:00 & 10:30 <i>YMCA Fitness</i>	OCT 30 5:00 Line Dancing Offices Closed	OCT 31 OFFICE CLOSED 10:30 YMCA Fitness	Nov 1 11-12:30 Food Pantry Free Lunches & Nick's Closet
2 8:30 Service 9:45 Christian Education 11:00 Service Daylight Savings All Saints Day	3 9:00 & 10:30 <i>YMCA Fitness</i>	4 9-2 Food Pantry Election Day	5 9:00 & 10:30 <i>YMCA Fitness</i> Pastor vacation	6 5:00 Line Dancing Pastor vacation	7 OFFICE CLOSED 10:30 YMCA Fitness Pastor vacation	8 11-12:30 Food Pantry Free Lunches & Nick's Closet Pastor vacation
9 8:30 Service 9:45 Christian Education 11:00 Service Quilt Drawing Pastor vacation	10 9:00 & 10:30 <i>YMCA Fitness</i> Pastor vacation	11 9-2 Food Pantry & Free Lunches Quilting 9-11 Pastor vacation	12 9:00 & 10:30 <i>YMCA Fitness</i> Echo Articles Due Pastor vacation	13 5:00 Line Dancing Pastor vacation	14 OFFICE CLOSED 10:30 YMCA Fitness	15 11-12:30 Food Pantry Free Lunches & Nick's Closet
16 8:30 Service 9:45 Christian Education 11:00 Service Children's Message	17 9:00 & 10:30 <i>YMCA Fitness</i>	18 9-2 Food Pantry & Free Lunches Quilting 9-11	19 9:00 & 10:30 <i>YMCA Fitness</i>	20 5:00 Line Dancing	21 OFFICE CLOSED 10:30 YMCA Fitness	22 11-12:30 Food Pantry & Nick's Closet Corpus Christi turkey lunch
23 8:30 Service 9:45 Christian Education 11:00 Service 30 8:30 Service 9:45 Christian Education 11:00 Service	24 9:00 & 10:30 <i>YMCA Fitness</i>	25 9-2 Food Pantry & Free Lunches Quilting 9-11	26 9:00 & 10:30 <i>YMCA Fitness</i> Blood Drive 1-5pm	27 5:00 Line Dancing Offices Closed-Thanksgiving	28 OFFICE CLOSED 10:30 YMCA Fitness	29



Serving from the Heart



DATE/ TIME	ASSISTING MINISTER	COMMUNION ASSISTANT	USHERS	GREETERS	READER	ACOLYTE	HOSPITALITY
11/2/2025 8:30	Rich Tulino	Katrina Pavolino	Susan & Wes Combs	Nancy Altman	Rich Tulino		
11:00	Deac. Heidi Cowey			Mary Lou Moisio	Ron Young		
11/9/2025 8:30	Amy Gallagher	Katrina Pavolino	Susan & Wes Combs	Susan Combs	Amy Gallagher		
11:00		Mark Lytle		Mary Lou Moisio	Mark Lytle		
11/16/2025 8:30	Jen Best	Katrina Pavolino		Nancy Altman	Ron Young		
11:00	Jen Best				Susan Tan		
11/23/2025 8:30		Katrina Pavolino		Katrina Pavolino			
11:00				Renee Harley	Stacy Racut		
11/30/2025 8:30		Katrina Pavolino					
11:00		Glenda Betteridge	Jen and Luna	Jerry Lampela	Greg Betteridge		

NOVEMBER ALTAR GUILD:

Katrina Pavolino, Michelle Flower
Kelly Anthony, Robin Bryant,
Susan Tan

DECEMBER ALTAR GUILD:

Katrina Pavolino, Michelle Flower
Kelly Anthony, Robin Bryant,
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

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