

January 2018 Newsletter
Shepherd of the Lakes Lutheran Church
2903 State Hwy. 155
Sayner, WI 54560-9698



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Contact bacashman@gmail.com with your email address.

Shepherd of the Lakes Lutheran Church

A member congregation of the Northern Great Lakes Synod
of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America
Sunday Worship Service: 9:00 AM
June thru August, Saturday Service: 5:30 PM
Fellowship/Coffee: 10:15 AM
Weekday Church School (preschool-grade 5): Wednesdays 4 PM
(Weekday Church School runs from Labor Day to Memorial Day)

*EMPOWERED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT AND ROOTED IN THE GOOD NEWS OF JESUS CHRIST, WE ARE A
LOVING COMMUNITY THAT FOLLOWS JESUS, AND SEEKS TO HEAR THE WORD OF GOD
AND DO IT IN OUR DAILY LIVES.*



Ministers: The People of the Parish
William Wendorf LLM 715-479-3114, Cell 715-617-6477
Council President: Doug Tarkowski 715-479-1154, Cell 715-891-0094
Church Telephone: 715-542-3701

On the World Wide Web:
www.shepherdofthelakeschurch.org
www.nglsynod.org

WORDS FROM BILL

As Christmas approaches, I eagerly scan the TV guide looking for old familiar Christmas specials, and the day and time they will run. This may seem just a bit odd for a man my age, but these stories and the messages they bring, are still very much a part of who I am, and I look forward to watching them with as much excitement and anticipation as I did as a child. Rudolf the “misfit” saves the day with his shiny nose, the Grinch comes to realize that Christmas is so much more than presents and feasting, and of course, A Christmas Carol, with its many re-makes over the years, reminds us we should always work and strive for the good of all mankind.

These are my old favorites, the shows of my childhood. But every now and then, (not too often) a new one comes along that slips into my list of favorites, and one recently has. I just finished viewing, (for the second or third time☺), The Polar Express. In this story, a magical train picks up a handful of children, and takes them on magical, mystical ride to the North Pole on Christmas Eve. How the children are chosen is not real clear, but there were girls and boys, rich and poor, of all races, creeds and colors. And although it seemed they were all there to grow in some way, or gain something from the experience, the main goal was to be the child chosen to receive the first gift of Christmas (that Christmas) from Santa.

Ultimately, a young man, the star of show, was chosen to receive the first gift. Able to ask for anything he wanted, he surprised Santa, and asked for the sleigh bell he had found on the ground, that had fallen off Santa’s sleigh. Santa took the bell in his hand, and standing tall in his sleigh, holding the bell high above his head, announced in a loud, low, booming voice...THE FIRST GIFT OF CHRISTMAS! For a moment, lost in the story, I thought how wonderful it would be, to be chosen to receive the first gift of Christmas. To receive a special gift, to..... wait a minute..... I was chosen to receive a special gift, and so were you, as was all creation. The most wonderful gift ever given, the true “FIRST GIFT OF CHRISTMAS”, The Christ Child, Jesus.

For unto you is born this day in the city of David, a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. On that cold night so many years ago, a child was born, a son was given, and his name shall be Emmanuel (God is with us). A child born in a humble manger, who would bring hope, peace, love and light to the dark places of our hearts. God’s gift to creation, you, me, and all people, past, present, and future. God’s gift that we gather every Christmas to celebrate. We lift our voices in prayer, praise, and song, remember and give thanks for God’s great act of love.

But yet, not all understand, not all have received this gift. Fortunately, unlike the sleigh bell that can only be handed down to one person at a time, Gods love through Christ is in endless supply, and continues to be given to all who despair, to all who live without hope. Because the light of the Christ child you see continues to lives on in you and me. And so blessed, we are compelled to share this story, share this gift, and through faith, help others to understand that they too have been chosen to receive this special gift, the greatest gift ever given, the true “FIRST GIFT OF CHRISTMAS”,

Jesus, who is Christ the Lord.

Merry Christmas

Bill †

FROM YOUR COUNCIL PRESIDENT

First of all this month I'd like to send a big "THANK YOU" to everyone who has made the past year at Shepherd very successful and blessed in many ways. There are many of you who work behind the scenes and perform the many, varied tasks that keep the doors open and allow us to do the work that our Lord calls us to do in his name. Your time and talents are truly appreciated. Thank you to Bill Wendorf for his successful first year of service to Shepherd of the Lakes. It has been a real pleasure working with him this past year. Thank you to those of you who served on our church council this year. You have been a real blessing to me when difficult decisions have to be made. Thank you to all of our members, associate members, visitors and friends for their prayers and support as we move forward.

Please watch for a mailing in the coming weeks which will contain information regarding the proposed 2018 budget and the proposed Shepherd of the Lakes endowment fund. Both have been reviewed and approved by the council. The next step is for you to review them and then, at the annual meeting, approve them or suggest possible changes which would improve them. Your council is always available to answer questions regarding these or any other relevant topics.

I, along with my wife Betsy, would like to wish all of you a Blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Doug Tarkowski

Council Members:

Doug Tarkowski, President 715-479-1154
Jon Erpenbach, Vice President 715-542-2448
JoAnn Kehl 715-542-4174
Margaret Lindquist 715-542-2434
Karen Carter 715-542-4049
Larry Stephenson 715-542-4284
Sharon Geist 715-892-7486
Joan Ebert 239-910-3986

BLOOD DRIVE

Shepherd will be hosting the next blood drive on Friday, January 26th from noon to 5 PM. We need homemade cookies and many donors. We have met the goal set by the Community Blood Center for the past 3 drives! Please help us to continue such a good record. If you are unable to give blood, please try to encourage someone else to do so. For an appointment, please call Karen at 715.542.4049.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Do you or someone you know need prayers? The very first thing you need to do is obtain permission to put the name on our prayer list. Then call Jan Lundin 715-891-2280, 715-337-0458 or jlblundin@gmail.com. (NOTE: January-late April, please use only the 715-891-2280 number or the email address, not the 337 number. Prayers can also be requested thru Bill Wendorf, Barb Cashman or Barb Maines.) We don't need a lot of details but if you provide details to Jan, be assured that they remain confidential. She will pass on the request for prayers without details and all on the prayer chain will pray for that person. The request will also appear in the Sunday bulletin.

- **Prayers requested since the last newsletter:** Donald Pockat, Brian Peters, Chuck Tremmel, Wendy, Mitzi Pockat, Buckshot Long, Don Dixon, Mark Helge, Jessica, Don Dixon, Mark Helge, Jessica, Mark Helge, Jessica. Carol Miles.
- **Ongoing health issues:** Joan Kirschner, Katie Fingerson, Diane Muri, Larry & Joan Stephenson, Bob Bernhardt, Ramona Schaeffel, Lisa Scheel, John Neuman, Betty Abraham, Linda Anderson, Darlene Mursett, Tom Miles, Corey Soberg, Rich Kysiak, Tim Boman, Jessica, Charles Webb, Tiffany Boman, Lillian Crall, Shelle Blair, Jessica (Stephenson family), Penny Tarkowski, Debbie Kroll, Beth Von Ende.
- **Prayers of strength & comfort for the homebound or those in nursing homes:** Ginny & Lovell Morris, Marilyn Sheldon, Jackie Larsen, Carolyn Maines.
- **Prayers of comfort and hope for those in prisons and those struggling with addictions:** Larry (friend of the Brentlingers), Jamie Goodrum.
- **Prayers for those who serve in our armed forces:** Jeff Hammer, Jeremy Vail, Brian Krieck, Adam & Brittany Recob, Brooks Maines, Will Schmidt, Lance Kangas, Jason Henke, Alex Bauer, Jared Mann, Mark Wolf.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Your church family would like the opportunity to pray for you, make arrangements for you to receive Holy Communion, or support you by other means. Please contact us:

- ...if you or someone in your family are ill at home or hospitalized.
- ...if you are anticipating surgery or another medical procedure.
- ...if you have a birth or death in your family.
- ...if you want to request prayers for someone else, ask their permission first.
- ...if you have any other significant event in your family.
- ...if you would like to schedule a visit with Bill Wendorf LLM or another church member.

Never forget that each of you are valued, loved, and cared for by your church family. Please notify Jan Lundin at 715-891-2280, 715-337-0458 or email jlblundin@gmail.com if you need prayers for any reason. (NOTE: January-late April, please use only the 715-891-2280 number or the email address, not the 337 number. Prayers can also be requested thru Bill Wendorf LLM, Barb Cashman or Barb Maines.)

We have a telephone calling tree with the prayer chain so those without a computer can participate in this ministry. If you would like to be included, your name will be added. Please let Jan know by calling 715-891-2280. An updated list will be mailed to you with a further explanation of how this works.

THANK YOU'S

Thank you's received from:

Caritas - \$41.67

Community Food Pantry - \$25.00

Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp - \$41.67

Tri-County Council on Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault - \$242.41

Vilas Food Pantry - \$62.00

From Marilyn Walters: Just an "add on" to Evelyn Ahlborn's thank you to Jan Lundin. I also would like to thank Jan and all of her Prayer warriors . I was so blessed by all the prayers during my summer surgery and struggle with cancer this summer. In fact, the feeling of love and the Lord's strong supporting arms was so intense and wonderful that I actually knew when you heard the report that things were going well. Yes, it was an unbelievable "let down", not bad, just really noticeable. It helped me realize how powerful our (your) prayers are. Prayers really do matter and I so want to thank each and every one of you for every prayer. We continue to remember and miss each of you during this time of winter absence. Love you all so much.

From Don Dixon: Thank you so much for the prayers and cards I received for a speedy recovery. Merry Christmas to all!

Next scheduled printings of this newsletter below!

Month	Date Articles are Due (Thursday)	Printing Date (Saturday)
January 2018	11 th	13 th
February 2018	8 th	10 th
March 2018	15 th	17 th
April 2018	12 th	14 th
May 2018	10 th	12 th
June 2018	14 th	16 th
July 2018	12 th	14 th
August 2018	16 th	18 th
September 2018	13 th	15 th
October 2018	11 th	13 th
November 2018	15 th	17 th
December 2018	13 th	15 th

Email articles to Barb Cashman at bacashman@gmail.com. Thank you.

Tw'as the Night Before Jesus Came

'Twas the night before Jesus came and all through the house
Not a creature was praying, not one in the house.
Their Bibles were lain on the shelf without care
In hopes that Jesus would not come there.

The children were dressing to crawl into bed,
Not once ever kneeling or bowing a head.
And Mom in her rocker with baby on her lap
Was watching the Late Show while I took a nap.

When out of the east there arose such a clatter,
I sprang from my feet to see what was the matter.
Away to the window I flew like a flash
Tore open the shutters and threw up the sash!

When what to my wondering eyes should appear
But angels proclaiming that Jesus was here
With a light like the sun sending forth a bright ray
I knew in a moment this must be THE DAY!

The light of His face made me cover my head
It was Jesus returning just like He had said.
And though I possessed worldly wisdom and wealth,
I cried when I saw Him in spite of myself.

In the Book of Life which He held in His hand
Was written the name of every saved man.
He spoke not a word as He searched for my name;
When He said, "It's not here" my head hung in shame.

The people whose names had been written with love
He gathered to take to His Father above.
With those who were ready He rose without a sound
While all of the rest were left standing around.

I feel to my knees, but it was too late;
I had waited too long and thus sealed my fate.
I stood and I cried as they rose out of sight;
Oh, if only I had been ready tonight.

In the words of this poem, the meaning is clear;
The coming of Jesus is drawing near.
There's only one life and when comes the last call
We'll find that the Bible was true after all.

By Lou Pinter

SHEPHERD OF THE LAKES LUTHERAN CHURCH – December 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 Food pantry items needed for the month of December: Baking items including sugar, flour, baking powder, baking soda, salt, brown sugar, powdered sugar, other spices, cookie cutters, cookie decorating items. Please place items in the appropriate bins in the coat room.					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
8 AM Choir Rehearsal 9 AM Worship Service			9 AM Quilting Group	9 AM Text Study	10 AM Worship Service @ Avanti	9 AM Men's Breakfast
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
8 AM Choir Rehearsal 9 AM Worship Service Fellowship Brunch			3:45 PM Church School and Confirmation Class	NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE 9 AM Text Study 6 PM WELCA Bible Study	10 AM Bingo @ Avanti	2 PM Christmas Caroling
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
8 AM Choir Rehearsal 9 AM Worship Service			3:45 PM Church School and Confirmation Class	9 AM Text Study		
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
8 AM Choir Rehearsal 9 AM Worship Service 4 PM Christmas Eve Service	Christmas Blessings To All			9 AM Text Study		
31	<i>The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams.</i>					
8 AM Choir Rehearsal 9 AM Worship Service						

December Birthdays:

6 th – Joanie Stephenson	9 th – Cheri Biedermann
10 th – Mary Sutor	10 th – Michael Kriek
11 th – Barb Harvey	11 th – Amy Engebretson
15 th – Samantha Thompson	23 rd – Donna Brooks

SHEPHERD OF THE LAKES LUTHERAN CHURCH – January 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<i>The purpose of life is to live a life of purpose.</i>	1	2	9 AM Quilting Group 3:45 PM Church School and Confirmation Class	4 9 AM Text Study	5 10 AM Worship Service @ Avanti	6
7 8 AM Choir Rehearsal 9 AM Worship Service	8	9	10 3:45 PM Church School and Confirmation Class	11 NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE 9 AM Text Study 6 PM WELCA Bible Study	12	13 9 AM Men's Breakfast
14 8 AM Choir Rehearsal 9 AM Worship Service Fellowship Breakfast	15	16	17 3:45 PM Church School and Confirmation Class	18 9 AM Text Study	19 10 AM Bingo @ Avanti	20
21 8 AM Choir Rehearsal 9 AM Worship Service	22	23	24 3:45 PM Church School and Confirmation Class	25 9 AM Text Study	26	27
28 8 AM Choir Rehearsal 9 AM Worship Service 10:30 AM ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MTG	29	30	31 3:45 PM Church School and Confirmation Class	 Pantry Needs <i>Food pantry</i> items needed for the month of January: Storage items including Ziploc bags, wax paper, aluminum foil, kitchen size plastic garbage bags, disposable kitchen storage containers. Please place items in the appropriate bins in the coat room.		

January Birthdays:

Carolyn Maines	1 st	Jan Lundin	25 th
Amanda Farrow	25 th	Barb Cashman	27 th

SHEPHERD OF THE LAKES LUTHERAN CHURCH – February 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Quote by Martin Luther: <i>Be thou comforted, little dog, for thou too in Resurrection shall have a golden tail.</i>				1 9 AM Text Study	2 10 AM Worship Service @ Avanti	3
4 8 AM Choir Rehearsal 9 AM Worship Service	5	6	7 9 AM Quilting Group 3:45 PM Church School and Confirmation Class	8 NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE 9 AM Text Study 6 PM WELCA Bible Study	9	10 9 AM Men's Breakfast
11 8 AM Choir Rehearsal 9 AM Worship Service Fellowship Brunch	12	13	14 3:45 PM Church School and Confirmation Class	15 9 AM Text Study	16 10 AM Bingo @ Avanti	17
18 8 AM Choir Rehearsal 9 AM Worship Service	19	20	21 3:45 PM Church School and Confirmation Class	22 9 AM Text Study	23	24
25 8 AM Choir Rehearsal 9 AM Worship Service	26	27	28 3:45 PM Church School and Confirmation Class	<i>Faith tells me that no matter what lies ahead of me, God is already there.</i>		



Food pantry items needed for the month of February:
 Cereal (hot or cold), powdered milk, canned fruit, peanut butter, jelly. Place items in the appropriate containers in the Coat Room.

February Birthdays:

Richard Gebhardt	4 th	Sharon Brooker	8 th
Bob Brooker	18 th	Charlie Seehafer	26 th
Hannah Scheel	26 th	Gregg Biedermann	28 th
McKenna Will	28 th		