

January 2020 Newsletter
Shepherd of the Lakes Lutheran Church
2903 State Hwy. 155
Sayner, WI 54560-9698



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Contact secretary@SOTLSayner.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 in America

Sunday Worship Service: 9:00 AM

June thru August, Saturday Service: 5:30 PM

September thru May evening service every other week 6 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 PRACTICE IT IN OUR DAILY LIVES.*



Ministers: The People of the Parish
William Wendorf LLM 715-479-3114, Cell 715-617-6477
Council President: Sharon Geist Cell 715-892-7486
Church Telephone: 715-542-3701

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

Council Members:

Bill Wendorf, LLM, Cell 715-617-6477
Sharon Geist, President, Cell 715-892-7486
Karen Carter, Vice President, Home 715-542-4049
Bill Sima, Home 715-542-4375, Cell 612-710-8946

Lyn Hurbanis, Home 715-542-2308
Mike Pockat, Home 715-356-1058
Joan Ebert, Cell 239-910-3986
Tracey Ahlborn, Cell 612-716-6008
Jeanne Kroll, Home 715-542-2797

Office Hours

Bill Wendorf LLM's office hours:

Wednesdays 9 AM to 12 noon
Thursdays 9 AM to 12 noon
Fridays 9 AM to 12 noon

Next scheduled printings of this newsletter!

Month	Date Articles are Due (Thursday)	Printing Date (Saturday)
January 2020	16 th	18 th
February 2020	13 th	15 th
March 2020	12 th	14 th
April 2020	16 th	18 th
May 2020	14 th	16 th
June 2020	11 th	13 th
July 2020	16 th	18 th
August 2020	13 th	15 th
September 2020	17 th	19 th
October 2020	15 th	17 th
November 2020	12 th	14 th
December 2020	17 th	19 th

Email articles to Barb Cashman at
secretary@SOTLSayner.com.
Thank you.

RECORDED SERMONS: All sermons at Shepherd of the Lakes are now recorded and are available shortly after the service. Go to shepherdofthelakeschurch.org to listen to them at any time.

CHRISTMAS LETTER

Pastor Paul Otto was my friend, mentor, and uncle by marriage. He once told me a story of an experience he had while attending seminary. He shared that he had one instructor that started class each day with prayer (as all did) giving thanks for something different each day. Well one day, while experiencing a winter storm (the kind for which we have experienced in recent weeks), only Paul and two other classmates could make it to class that day. As they waited for their instructor to arrive, they asked one another what he might give thanks for on such a day as this. As the instructor entered the room, he looked at those in attendance and said, "Let us Pray", Heavenly Father, we give you thanks that not every day is like today, Amen!

For most in ancient times, it was hard to find much of anything to be thankful for. Being passed on through the centuries from one oppressor to another, waiting for the promised Messiah that would liberate them, but had yet to come. Their world was dark and heavily burdened. In their mind not much, if anything, to be thankful for. But as always, God had other plans. At a time when some had thought God had forgotten them, God was making ready to fulfill his promise, to shed light on, and in, the darkness of their hearts, to ease their burden, and to give a sure and certain hope to them and us.

On a cold winter night long ago, in a lowly stable, quietly, humbly, a baby is born, a Son is given, and the world is changed forever. "For unto you is born this day in the city of David, a Savior, who is Christ the Lord". This child fulfills God's promise of a Savior for all mankind. Hope once again is in the world, "The light shining in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it". God's great gift, the greatest gift ever given, given for all, that all may live in and through the light of the newborn Christ child. Living in his love, peace, and the hope that he brings.

But the darkness still tries to overtake us. The weight of the world around us squeezes in to try and push the light out, and we may find it hard at times to think of something, anything, to be thankful for. But like Uncle Paul's instructor who found something to be thankful for even on the hardest of days, we need only look once more in that lowly stable, to a manger where a baby wrapped in swaddling clothes lie, where two faithful and obedient parents looked on with wonder, and give thanks to God for this great and wonderful gift.

"And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, Glory to God in the highest and peace among those with whom he is pleased"

Thanks be to God.
Merry Christmas
Bill †

CHURCH COUNCIL SUMMARY

Church Council minutes from November are not available at this time because they have not yet been approved. (The Council meeting scheduled for December 1st was cancelled due to that infuriating white stuff.) Once approved, they will be in the January edition.

Luther discusses attributes of a good preacher: "It is commonly said that these are the three qualifications which mark a good preacher: first, that they stand straight; secondly, that they speak up and say something worthwhile; thirdly, that they know when to stop."

CHURCH SCHOOL HAPPENINGS

20 “Give Thanks” turkeys were made by the Church School children and the Confirmands for the residents at Avanti Rehab Center.

These turkeys were complete with feathers, on which each child listed things for which they were grateful. (Pets and X-boxes were tops among the many listed.)

Made of construction paper, the Activities Director placed one on each of the dining tables for all to enjoy!

Right now, we are practicing for the Christmas Eve service. Complete with sheep and camels, the narration was written by the intermediate class.

The next art project we are working on is the manger scene with Mary, Joseph, Baby Jesus, and a shining star, made possible with the help of lots and lots of glitter!

These scenes will be brought to Avanti next week for placement on the windowsills of the residents.

DEVOTIONS

Everlasting Hope
by Karen Carter

Psalms 146:5 “Blessed are those whose God is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord their God.”

The week before Christmas, two months after my dear mother-in-law died, holiday shopping and tree-decorating were at the bottom of my priority list. I resisted my husband’s attempts to comfort me as I grieved the loss of our family’s matriarch and a very close friend to me. I sulked as our son stretched out and ringed the tree with little white lights. Without a word, he plugged them in as he and his dad left for the mall.

As the tiny white lights blinked, God gently drew me out of my darkness. No matter the circumstances, they reminded me that my hope remained secure in the light of God's truth, which always reveals His unchanging character.

Psalm 146 reaffirms what God reminded me on that difficult morning. My endless hope is in the Lord: "The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down." He "watches over us, sustains us" and will always be Lord and King.

Sometimes, when Christmas rolls around, our days will overflow with joyful moments. Sometimes, though, we will face loss, experience hurt, or feel very much alone. But, at all times, God has promised to be our Light in the darkness, offering us tangible help and everlasting love. I know this to be true.

Heavenly Father, thank You for inviting us to know and to rely on Your unchanging character as the source of our eternal hope.

Amen.

A FAMILY BLESSING

Lord of all,
bless our families.
Be they formed by blood or by circumstance,
make them holy.

May we look across all that divides us
and see family,
and embrace as a family does,
and love as a family ought to.

For, where two or three gather in Your name
there are You in the midst,
there indeed are You,
the One for Whom we long so deeply. Amen.

FARMER'S ALMANAC

From the Old Farmer's Almanac, here is a little bit about the history of Christmas traditions in America from Christmas trees to greeting cards.

Christmas trees

The first American Christmas tree can be credited to a Hessian soldier by the name of Henrick Roddmore, who was captured at the battle of Bennington in 1776. He then went to work on the farm of Samuel Denslow in Windsor Locks, Connecticut, where for the next 14 years he put up and decorated Christmas trees in the Denslow family home. (I have a sneaking hunch that a whole bunch of German settlers did that very thing way before Henrick.)

The first retail Christmas tree lot was established in 1851 by a Pennsylvanian named Mark Carr, who hauled two ox sleds loaded with Christmas trees from the Catskill Mountains to the sidewalks of New York City.

The first president to set up a Christmas tree in the White House was Franklin Pierce, and the first president to establish the National Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony on the White House lawn was Calvin Coolidge.

In 1882, the first Christmas tree lights were sold in New York City.

Christmas cards

The first American to print and sell Christmas cards was Louis Prang of Roxbury, Massachusetts, who began publishing cards in 1875.

President Dwight D. Eisenhower is given credit for sending the first “official” Christmas card from the White House. An art print also became the standard Christmas gift for the president’s staff, a practice continued to this day.

Old Wives’ Tale: as many mince pies as you taste at Christmas, so many happy months will you have. (?!?)

PILL BOTTLE COLLECTION

We are again (still) collecting pill bottles, DARK BROWN ONLY. Please remove the labels and put the bottles in the container by the coat rack labeled for such.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Prayers requested since the last newsletter: Lyn Hurbanis (had to have her kitty, Ally, put down), Herb Mursett.

Pray for the families who lost loved ones:

1. Jack Carlson & Family: Jack’s mother passed away.

Ongoing health issues: Joan Kirschner, Katie Fingerson, Diane Muri, Larry & Joan Stephenson, Bob Bernhardt, Lisa Scheel, Betty Abraham, Tom Miles, Corey Soberg, Rich Kysiak, Tim Boman, Jessica, Charles Webb, Shelle Blair, Jessica, Debbie Kroll, Alair Peck, Sean Gabriel, Dave Tarkowski, Willow Boman, John Raby, Clark (Snooker) DeWitt Jr., Jessie Buck, Paul, Rick, Mike.

Prayers of strength & comfort for the homebound or those in nursing homes: Ramona Schaeffel, Herb Mursett, Mel & Barb Harvey, Elisabeth Jacobsen.

Prayers of comfort and hope for those in prisons and those struggling with addictions: Larry (friend of LuAnn Brentlinger), Jamie Goodrum.

Prayers for those who serve in our armed forces: Jeff Hammer, Brian Krieck, Adam & Brittany Recob, Brooks Maines, Will Schmidt, Sgt. Keara Kangas, Alex Bauer, Jared Mann, Noah, Storaasli, Zachary Raatz.

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 Barb Cashman at 715-892-2166 or email bacashman@gmail.com if you need prayers for any reason. ***Prayers can also be requested thru Bill Wendorf LLM or Barb Maines.***

We also 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, please let Barb know by calling 715-892-2166. An updated list will be mailed to you with a further explanation of how this works.

RECIPE CORNER

by Jan Specht

"Years ago the Milwaukee Journal/Sentinel had a recipe column "You Asked For It" (maybe they still do). If you had a dish at a restaurant and wanted the recipe, they would attempt to obtain it for you. This one was requested from Oneida Village Inn, Three Lakes. With winter full upon us, it seems like a good fit.

Oneida Village Inn, Zuppa Italiano

- *2 pounds spicy precooked Italian sausage
- 2 medium onions, chopped
- 1 medium green bell pepper, chopped
- 2 Tablespoons minced garlic
- Olive oil to cook vegetables
- 4 cups chopped Roma tomatoes with juice (canned can be used)
- 5 cups beef stock or au jus
- 3/4 cup burgundy wine
- 3/4 teaspoon diced basil or 1 teaspoon pesto
- 1/4 teaspoon dried oregano
- 2 medium zucchini, sliced (optional)
- *2 cups shell macaroni noodles
- salt and pepper to taste
- 1/2 cup parsley to garnish
- 1/2 cup freshly grated Parmesan cheese

Dear God,

We had a good time at church today...wish you could have been there.

Matthew (age 7)

Slice sausage 3/4 inch thick, set aside

Saute onion, pepper and garlic in olive oil until limp, about 5 minutes.

Add tomatoes with liquid, beef stock, wine, basil, oregano, and sausage. Simmer 20 minutes.

Add zucchini and noodles. Cook until noodles are tender.

Soup will be thick. Season, sprinkle with parsley; serve with cheese.

*I do not use sausages, but rather brown 2 pounds bulk Italian flavored pork sausage.

If you use 2 cups of macaroni, it ends up more like a hot dish. I usually make it with 1 cup macaroni.

If summer, I might use the zucchini, but it gets pretty limp if you don't eat it all right away.

Thank You's

From Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp: Thank you for being a part of the 2019 Fall Fest. This year's Fall Fest was very successful and over \$22,000 was raised. This money will help FLLC provide quality programming and ensure our facilities are up to date and in great condition.

You were one of 10 quilting or church group donors and many individual donors who shared their talents by donating items to the Fall Fest. We thank you for your donations. Due to the vast number of high-quality donations received this year, many items were placed in the Corner Store in the chapel to be sold or used in the raffle and a door prize. Thank you for all the hard work each and everyone did on the beautiful items.

There were 90 items in the auction. The total of your donated auction items was \$180. The Fall Fest committee thanks you again for your participation in supporting the mission of Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp. God Bless.

Sisters of the Cloth

From the Humane Society of Vilas County: Thank you for the generous donation! Mel

Thank you notes also received from:

Awakening Lives (Vital Links): \$125

Caritas: \$42

Community Food Pantry: \$110

Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp: \$58

NATH: \$35 in October and \$35 in November

Vilas Food Pantry: \$59.50 and \$110

Dear Pastor,

I think a lot more people would probably come to your church if You moved it to Disneyland.

Lauren (age 9)

January

Bring on the NEW YEAR!



St Germain Senior Café

Serving Wednesday, Thursday and Friday at 12:00 Noon
The St. Germain Community Center

Join us for food, fellowship and fun. For reservations or cancellations, please call

Nancy Moser at 715-617-2795 (MUST Call 24 hours in advance)

*Lighter Substitute available in place of Main Entrée: Grilled Chicken Salad (or Healthy Salad)

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1	2	3
New Year Holiday - Closed Meals sponsored by the ADRC of Vilas County	Meatloaf Mashed Potatoes & Gravy Peas Whole Wheat Bread Pumpkin Bar	Tuna Noodle Casserole Peas Rye Bread Diced Fruit Mix Apple Cake
8	9 BINGO	10
Lasagna Carrots Tossed Romaine Lettuce Salad w/ Dressing & Garlic Breadstick Fruit Jello-O Dessert	 Honey Mustard Pork Baked Sweet Potato Cauliflower Raisin Bread Cinnamon Applesauce	Chicken Fajitas w/ Red & Green Pepper Sauté Tortilla, Sour Cream Refried Beans, Mexi Corn Chocolate Cherry Cake
15	16	17
Brat on a Bun, Ketchup Steamed Onions Baked Beans Potato Salad Strawberry Cake	Oven Baked Rosemary Chicken Sweet Potato Cauliflower Cornbread Grapes	Chili w/ Macaroni Crackers, Cheddar Cheese Tossed Romaine & Spinach Salad Dressing Apple Slices, Lemon Bar
22 BINGO	23	24
 Turkey Tetrazzini Carrots Sliced Pickled Beets Whole Wheat Roll Peach Upside Down Cake	Beef Vegetable Stew w/ Biscuit Country Trio Veggie Blend Tossed Romaine & Spinach Salad Dressing Cookie	Hot Beef Bun Baked Beans Potato Salad Ambrosia Fruit Salad
29	30	31
Baked Fish, Tartar Sauce Parsley Buttered Potatoes Red Cabbage Slaw Rye Bread Banana Cream Pie Bar	Chicken Breast w/ Mushroom Bacon Sauce Brown & Wild Rice Blend Winter Squash Apple Slices, Brownie	Ham on Marble Rye w/ Romaine Leaf, Tomato Slice Mustard / Mayo Hearty Bean Soup, Crackers Pear Slices & Cookie

Home delivered meals are available based on eligibility.

All meals served with whole grain bread or roll. butter or margarine. coffee and low fat milk.

Rides are provided as needed. Please arrange with Nancy when making reservations.

SHEPHERD OF THE LAKES LUTHERAN CHURCH – December 2019


Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 8 AM Choir Rehearsal 9 AM Worship Service	2	3	4 3:45 PM Children's Classes	5 9 AM Text Study	6 10 AM Worship Service @ Avanti	7
8 8 AM Choir Rehearsal 9 AM Worship Service Fellowship Brunch	9	10	11 3:45 PM Children's Classes	12 NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE 9 AM Text Study 6 PM WELCA	13	14 4 PM Christmas Caroling
15 8 AM Choir Rehearsal 9 AM Worship Service	16	17	18 11 AM–2 PM Ahlborn Equipment Christmas Party – Community Room 3:45 PM Children's Classes	19 9 AM Text Study	20 10 AM Bingo @ Avanti	21
22 8 AM Choir Rehearsal 9 AM Worship Service	23	24 Christmas Eve Service 4 PM	25 Merry Christmas	26	27	28
29 8 AM Choir Rehearsal 9 AM Worship Service	30	31	 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. Place items in the appropriate containers in the Coat Room.			

December Birthdays:

Joanie Stephenson	6 th	Cheryl Biedermann	9 th
Mary Sutor	10 th	Barb Harvey	11 th
Samantha Thompson	15 th		

Rev. Vincent Heier, of the Catholic Archdiocese of St. Louis, recently welcomed a large group of Lutherans meeting in the St. Louis Cathedral with these words: "We are pleased to provide the cathedral. Please don't nail anything to the doors."

SHEPHERD OF THE LAKES LUTHERAN CHURCH – January 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 Food pantry 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. Place items in appropriate containers in the Coat Room.			Happy New Year	9 AM Text Study	10 AM Worship Service @ Avanti	
8 AM Choir Rehearsal 9 AM Worship Service Council Meeting			3:45 PM Children's Classes	9 AM Text Study 6 PM WELCA		
8 AM Choir Rehearsal 9 AM Worship Service Fellowship Brunch			3:45 PM Children's Classes	9 AM Text Study	10 AM Bingo @ Avanti	
8 AM Choir Rehearsal 9 AM Worship Service			3:45 PM Children's Classes	9 AM Text Study		
ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING			3:45 PM Children's Classes	9 AM Text Study		

January Birthdays:
