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*Our Mission: To share the Good News of God's grace through worshiping, teaching and reaching out to all in need of God's*

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## Pastor's Message

February  
2024

THE MESSENGER

The word *lent* comes from the Old English word *loenten*, which means "to lengthen" and refers to the lengthening of days that reveal the coming of spring. But Lent is about more than milder temperatures and green grass, it is about the Resurrection! As always, we who honor the ancient tradition of the Western Church and take this time to study, worship, and reflect.

We celebrate the eve of Lent on Shrove Tuesday, Feb. 13, with sausage, pancakes and White Elephant Bingo starting at 6 p.m. The word *shrove* also comes from Old English "to confess" and was the time that people would "cleanse the kitchen" of fats and dairy products prior Lent. It was also sometimes called "Fat Tuesday," or in French, "*Mardi Gras*". The beginning of the 40-day season of Lent (Sundays are not counted) starts the next night, Ash Wednesday, when we worship at 7:00 p.m. with confession, the imposition of ashes (an ancient Biblical custom denoting one's contrition in "*sackcloth and ashes*") and Communion. Every Wednesday night during Lent we gather for a soup supper (you are asked to sign up to bring soup and bread) and devotional worship.

Sunday worship will also have a different flavor, as we are adapting the language of the ancient Celtic Church with its wonderful music and hymnody. This year St. Patrick's Day falls on Sunday, March 17, we will honor his memory with a Celtic Liturgy; members of the LSIM Celtic Music Team will join our own musicians on that day to offer the music. After worship, Pastor Craig and Leann invite you to remain for a luncheon of traditional Irish food in the Community Room. This is a good day to invite a friend to join us for worship!

Lent concludes with Palm Sunday on March 24.

Holy week begins Maundy Thursday, March 28, this year in the sanctuary at 7 p.m. as we strip the altar in preparation for Good Friday the next night when we once again host the Milton Union Council of Churches at a community worship at 7 p.m.

We join our LSIM partners at St. John's in Vandalia to celebrate Easter Vigil on Saturday, March 30 and Sunday, March 31, we gather for the Festival of Resurrection with breakfast in the Community Room at 9 a.m., Easter egg hunt on the lawn at 10 a.m. and special music and Communion at 10:30 a.m.

You can find a complete worship and event brochure and also a Lenten Devotional Book for your personal use during Lent, Sunday, February 11 at the information table in the narthex.

I want to once again thank Les Barker our outgoing president, and Diane Frye our outgoing council member, for their fine work in leading our congregation this past year. Dave Stein was elected president by the council last Sunday and will do a fine job of leading us into the future!

Pray for our call committee, council, staff (Marsha Fischbach, Darrell Fryman, and JoAnn, and myself) throughout these busy, meaningful, and fulfilling days of Lent. We journey in anticipation and joy!

In Christ,

Pastor Craig

# Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner

February 13, at 6 p.m. Come for the food and stay for the fun. We will serve pancakes from 6 - 7 p.m. and then play a few rounds of Bingo. Bring your neighbors, your friends and your family!

Hope to see you there!



**BINGO!**



Service on February 14  
at 7 p.m.



February 21 & 28 and March 6, 13, & 20

Soup Supper at 6:00 p.m. and  
Holden Evening Prayer Service at 6:45 p.m.

**We need donations of soup!**

# Packing breakfast Sacks for Son Rise on December 30, 2023



## DONATIONS WANTED

### Union Township FISH

#### Needs:

- \*Paper Towels
- \*Bar Soap
- \*Laundry Detergent
- \*Toothpaste
- \*Deodorant



*The planning group will provide 17 mats to three organizations: Bethany House /Piqua, St. Pat's Kitchen/Troy, East Dayton Church of Brethren, St John's Lutheran/Dayton*





# Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

## Council Meeting Minutes

November & December Meeting

December 5, 2023

Present: Les Barker, President; Pastor Craig Fourman; Molly Franks; Diana Frye; Amy Grile, Vice President; David Stein; Toby Theis, Suzie Vagedes; Ric Warner, Treasurer; Rob Williams

Meeting was called to order by Les Barker.  
Opening Devotion- Pastor Craig

**Secretary's Report:** Motion to approve: Pastor Craig, Second: Ric Warner. All were in favor.

**Financial Secretary's Report:** Motion to approve: Dave Stein, Second: Rob Williams. All were in favor.

**Treasurer's Report:** Motion to approve: Pastor Craig, Second: Amy Grile. All were in favor.

**Pastor's Report:** Motion to approve: Toby Theis, Second: Ric Warner. All were in favor.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

Consecration Sunday Final Report: Rob Williams recapped.

Proposed 2024 Budget: Les Barker reviewed the budget in detail. Motion to proceed with the budget as amended Rob Williams, Second: Dave Stein. All were in favor..

Preschool repaid money from the tables and chairs.

Car Show date changed to August 3, 2024.

### **Committee Reports:**

**5-Year Plan Review** We are now averaging 55-60 weekly Sunday church attendance. Continued slow improvement. Will review plan at January meeting.

**Worship:** Will have 2 services on Sunday of Christmas Eve: regular Sunday morning Advent Service and Christmas Eve evening service.

**Mission/Outreach/LSIM/MUCC:** Helping Hands baskets- MUCC distributing food baskets on Friday, Dec. 8.

**Property:** Two Furnaces in old part of church were replaced after Preschool director called Les Barker to notify him of a bad smell in the building. Allied Services were called. It was found that the old furnaces were emitting CO2, and must be replaced emergently. Motion to use money from Edward Jones Fund to cover the expense by Pastor Craig, Second: Dave Stein. All were in favor.

**Youth/Christian Education/Preschool:** Ric Warner presented a mock up of the new Preschool sign. Motion to proceed with making of new sign by Rob Williams, Second Toby Theis. All were in favor.

**Fellowship:** Good turn out for Consecration Sunday service and luncheon.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Pastor Craig's new contract reviewed. Motion to approve Ric Warner, Second Amy Grile. All were in favor.

We need two or more new officers for 2024. Diana Frye term is up and she does not intend to return for a second term. Les Barker has served two terms and will be going off. Pastor Craig thanked them for their years of service, they will be missed.

Reset the Call Committee. The Call committee will be reformed. Les Barker would be interested in joining and Diana Frye was also open to joining. Will address in the new year.

Diana Frye asked that the minutes be set out to council members as soon as typed up to keep everyone informed, especially officers who could not attend..

Annual Congregational Meeting set for Jan 28, 2024

Motion to adjourn Toby Theis, Second: Ric Warner. All were in favor.

Meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Next meeting January 16, 2024

Respectfully Submitted, Suzie Vagedes



# January News

We have started the year 2024 off very well. We are learning a lot and having fun! If you come into the preschool you will see it looks a little different. We had the cubbies, the boxes and the shelf in the left little room painted.

This month we have been working on learning about Arctic animals and our five senses. We worked with snowman and did the Snowkey Pokey, which helped bring in snow the two times that we dared to sing it! I think we might be done with that song now though.

## Open House Sunday, March 3, 2-4PM

This open house is for anyone looking to have their child/ren come to the preschool in the fall for the 2024-2025 school year. Please share this with your family and friends!

3 year old class: MW, 9:15-12:00, \$140 a month (12 spots open), must be potty trained and 3 before Aug. 1, 2024

4-5 year old class: MWF, 9:15-12:00, \$170 a month (24 spots open), must be 4 before Aug. 1, 2024





**144 volunteers packaged 35,640 meals that will go to Somalia and the Dominican Republic.**

**GSLC Volunteers**

- Barbara Cecil
- Eva and Tom Coughnour
- Pastor Craig Fourman
- Leann Fourman
- Amy Grile
- Judy Moncrief
- Ann Siler







Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, along with other Lutheran churches in the Lutheran Saints in Ministry (LSIM) consortium, traveled to Abiding Christ Lutheran Church in Fairborn on Saturday morning, January 20, to help package 35,640 meals that will be shipped by Life-line Christian Ministry in Columbus to Somalia and the Dominican Republic. These local volunteers (144 in all) from ages 3 to over 80+ packed stable, nutritious meals consisting of dried vegetables and beans, fortified vitamins and rice for children and families that struggle with hunger and malnutrition. There are 6 meals per bag, 36 bags/boxes, 66 boxes/pallet and 2 ½ full pallets done. What a GREAT effort to help the less fortunate in the world!

*Pictures and article by: Barbara Cecil*





# BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

## February 2024



F  
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Y

- 1 Zach Vagedes
- 3 Betty Lou Johansen
- 5 Russ Siler
- 20 Emil Tipton
- 21 Debbie Bredeson
- Tarah (Langley) Smoker

*Did we miss your birthday or anniversary ?  
Email to: gslcwmilton@gmail.com*

## SERVING

### ASSISTING MINISTER

Barbara Cecil  
11 Kristine Hayes

### COMMUNION ASSISTANT

Amy Grile

### ALTAR GUILD

Ann Siler  
& Suzie Vagedes

### LECTOR

4 Peri Bonner  
11 Peri Bonner  
18 Kristine Hayes  
25 Kristine Hayes

### USHER CAPTAIN

4 Barbara Cecil  
11 Jarrett Grile  
18 Dave Vagedes  
25 Molly Franks

### SOUND

Les Barker

### FLOWERS

4 available  
11 In honor of Whitney's birthday by Jodi Barth  
18 available  
25 available

### COUNTERS

Susan Langley  
& Ralph Blakley



## Pledge Giving Reports

through the end of:	<u>2023</u>	<u>January 2023</u>
Pledges over	9	5
Pledges under	12	10
Pledges even	17	19
Y-T-D pledge giving short:	\$- 4,283	\$-1,529



# February 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> 9-12 Preschool	<b>3</b>
<b>4</b> 9:30 Choir Practice 10:30 Holy Communion	<b>5</b> 9-12 Preschool 7:30pm AA Mtg.	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 9-12 Preschool 3pm Planning	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> 9-12 Preschool	<b>10</b>
<b>11</b> 9:30 Choir Practice 10:30 Holy Communion	<b>12</b> 9-12 Preschool 1:30pm Grief Share Group 6:30pm Preschool Board Mtg. 7:30pm AA Mtg.	<b>13</b> Shrove Tuesday 6 pm Pancake Meal & Bingo	<b>14</b> Ash Wednesday 9-12 Preschool 3pm No Planning 7pm Service	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> 9-12 Preschool	<b>17</b>
<b>18</b> 9:30 Choir Practice 10:30 Holy Communion	<b>19</b> No Preschool 11:30 Lydia's Circle 1:30pm Grief Share Group 7:30pm AA Mtg.	<b>20</b> 7 pm Council Mtg.	<b>21</b> 9-12 Preschool 3:30pm Planning 6pm Soup Supper 6:45pm Service	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> 9-12 Preschool	<b>24</b>
<b>25</b> 9:30 Choir Practice 10:30 Holy Communion	<b>26</b> 9-12 Preschool 1:30pm Grief Share Group 7:30pm AA Mtg.	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 9-12 Preschool 3:30pm Planning 6pm Soup Supper 6:45pm Service	<b>29</b>		



## Our Church Staff

Craig Fourman  
Interim Pastor

Marsha Fischbach  
Music Director

Darrell Fryman  
Pianist

JoAnn A.  
Administrative Asst.

## Ongoing Prayers and Concerns

Chuck Franks, Pat Porter, Bill Sims, Margaret Strozensky,  
Barbara Theis, Judy Tipton, and Patty Tipton

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