



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

October was a wonderful month as we celebrated the burning of our mortgage (with a bonfire) on Friday, October 27 followed by the celebration of Reformation Sunday on October 29. I hope you were able to attend one or both events.

It is November already, a month we tend to overlook! The world usually blows right by Thanksgiving in its headlong rush toward Christmas, in fact Leann and I saw our first Christmas commercial on Reformation Sunday, *3 full days before Halloween!* But November at Good Shepherd will contain two unique events we will want to stop and celebrate.

The first is Sunday, November 26 – which is both Christ the King and Consecration Sunday. You will be hearing from fellow parishioners and receiving emails concerning Consecration Sunday, **please read them and make worship on November 26 a fixed priority in your planning.** On Consecration Sunday we will follow worship with a Victory Lunch provided by the church. You will be contacted for reservations in advance, please RSVP when asked. The budget for next year (which will include a salary for a full-time pastor) will not be presented to you until *after* the estimate of giving cards from Consecration Sunday are totaled. We will announce that amount Sunday, November 26 at the luncheon, so you will know the total of the 2024 Budget on that day!

The following Wednesday Night, November 29 marks the beginning of Advent, that time of preparation for Christmas. We plan to have a soup supper at 6 p.m. followed by an educational/worship event for all ages focusing on what Advent is, what it means and how we can celebrate in a world rushing to get to Christmas. It should be a great evening! Looking ahead to December, one of our LSIM partners (St. John's in Vandalia) is hosting Wednesday Evening Advent soup suppers and worship on the 6th, 13th, and 20th at 6:30 p.m. Leann and I plan to attend, we invite you to join us!

Some of you noticed Leann and I taking some Sundays off. I took a cut in pay last August in anticipation of returning to retirement but am currently contracted to be here through Christmas Eve. We will keep you informed of future changes, but I want you to know it is a joy and a pleasure to serve among you in my limited capacity. Remember your bishop, call committee and council are actively engaged in seeking a new pastor so continue to hold them in your prayers!

Finally, the annual meeting will likely be held sometime in early January. We will elect new council members (as several long time and faithful persons will "term out") receive reports and vote on a final budget. If you are asked to serve, say yes. These are exciting times for Good Shepherd, your prayers, commitments, and leadership are needed!

In His Service,

PC

November
2023

THE MESSENGER

Consecration Sunday is November 26, 2023.

Please be sure to mark this date on your calendar!

The next few weeks will be exciting times for our congregation. We will be talking about our blessings, both personal and those of our church family, and the ministry we share together. All members are invited to attend; Rob's Restaurant will cater the Celebration Luncheon right after the service. This will be a time for fellowship and celebration. Please RSVP and plan to join us. We also welcome friends of the congregation. If you have any questions, please contact Rob Williams at (937)545-2924 or Email: rwilli1377@gmail.com



Son Rise Breakfast & First Lutheran Church “free room”

Our last sunrise breakfast will be December 31, 2023. We will prepare one more bagged breakfast at 10:00 am on Saturday, December 30, 2023.

Thanks to Judy Moncrief, Donna Plunkett, Molly Frank, Ann Siler, and Debbie Bredesen for packing breakfast on Oct. 28.

Currently the “free room” is in need of blankets, hoodies, sweat pants, men’s coats, men’s hats and gloves. Men’s jeans sizes 34 and smaller are also needed. Men’s insulated shirts and bottoms (all sizes). Gently used and clean for all of the above. I hope to keep the plarn group active and will be looking for another distribution site for the mats.

Thanks to all for your help in this ministry over the years. I pray another downtown church picks up this ministry in the place of First Lutheran. Pastor Gilbertson started this ministry many years ago and Good Shepherd has been a constant partner. Thank you, Judy Moncrief



October mats to be blessed and distributed at First Lutheran Church “free room”.

Helping Hands Christmas Food Program



As part of the Milton Union Council of Churches, we are once again hosting the program here at our church. This year’s distribution days are December 8 and 9. Applications can be picked up at any of the area churches, library, or area stores. They will also be given out by the school.



As part of that ministry we are collecting food for the boxes. Our church is collecting grape jelly and boxed macaroni & cheese. We are hoping to collect 100 of each. Please drop off your donation in the narthex by December 4.

Thanks!



GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
INVITES YOU TO...

"The Sounds of Christmas"

Friday, December 15, 2023
7:00 p.m.

A WONDERFUL EVENING OF CHRISTMAS MUSIC FEATURING THE CHRISTMAS CHOIR, SOLOISTS, INSTRUMENTALISTS, AND THE SHEPHERD'S BELLS

Special Guest:
Tara Mar Iddings, Cellist

1209 South Miami Street
West Milton, Ohio
Phone: (937)698-5826



DONATIONS WANTED

Union Township FISH

Needs:

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

****A Tuesday Phone Volunteer**



**Daylight Savings Ends
November 5, 2023**

**Remember to sets your clocks back one
hour before going to sleep on
Saturday, November 4**



Please note: Due to increased cases of the flu and COVID., we are no longer going to share a sign of peace during Sunday services.

SHARE A POINSETTIA



It is time to order poinsettias to decorate our sanctuary during the Christmas season. They will be displayed during the Christmas Musical and at the Christmas Eve service. Please fill out the form and return it with your payment by **Sunday, December 3**. Our supplier is Andy's Garden and the cost is \$9.00 each. Make checks payable to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church.

(Please Print Names Carefully)

How Many

Total Price

In memory of _____

White _____ x \$9.00 = _____

In honor of _____

Red _____ x \$9.00 = _____

Given By _____

Marble _____ x \$9.00 = _____

Your Phone No. _____

Pink _____ x \$9.00 = _____

(We may have to substitute color choice.)

Kicking Off the Advent Season

Wednesday, November 29

6 p.m. Soup Supper

6:30 p.m. Service

Bring your favorite soup!



Christmas Eve Children's program 2023

Christmas is a wonderful time of year. One of my very favorites. My name is Christa Clelan. I am the daughter of Pastor Craig and Leann Fourman. I was the director of Youth and Family at Abiding Christ from 2007-2013. During my time there my dad and I wrote a Christmas Eve worship service which included a children's tableau portion. I would like to bring this children's program to Good Shepherd for the 2023 Christmas Eve Service.

This is a simple yet beautiful program that brings the story of the birth of Christ to your altar. Any child of any age can participate in the tableau. There are no speaking parts, however, there is specific timing with music and reading of the gospel which takes practice. A guardian who is attending the service will be needed to attend practice with the child.

I am planning to have three practices before Christmas Eve (see schedule below) in the community room and the sanctuary at Good Shepherd. If your child, grandchild, neighbor or anyone you know wants to participate in this year's Christmas Eve tableau please email me their name and contact info at christaclelan14@gmail.com on or before November 12, 2023. You may also use this email if you have questions regarding the program. In Christ, Christa Clelan

Practice for Christmas Eve children's program

Sunday December 3, 9:40-10:20 a.m. Community Room

Sunday December 10, 9:40-10:20 a.m. Community Room

Sunday December 17, 9:40-10:20 a.m. Sanctuary



Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

Council Meeting Minutes

September 19, 2023

Present: Les Barker, President; Pastor Craig Fourman; Ray Lewis; David Stein; Amy Grile, Vice President; Toby Theis, Suzie Vagedes; Ric Warner, Treasurer

Meeting was called to order by Les Barker

Opening Devotion- Pastor Craig

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

Financial Secretary's Report: Motion to approve: Pastor Craig, Second: David Stein. All were in favor.

Treasurer's Report: Motion to approve: Rob Williams, Second: Amy Grile. All were in favor. Pastor's Report: Motion to approve: Ric Warner, Second: Ray Lewis. All were in favor.

OLD BUSINESS: Budget development for next calendar year: After discussion regarding next year's budget, Pastor Craig motioned to commit to paying off the mortgage before the end of this fiscal year and have a mortgage burning ceremony. Second: Dave Stein. All were in favor.

NEW BUSINESS:

Clothesline grant money: Clothesline gave a grant of \$5000 to GSLC. Motion to use grant money to buy the preschool tables and chairs requested and then cover the expense of the water heater repair, any extra grant money to go toward cubbies for preschool. This motion was made by Toby Theis, Second: Rob Williams. All were in favor.

Water Heater repair: Motion to approve water heater replacement Rob Williams, Second Ray Lewis. All were in favor.

Budget meetings: Les Barker is compiling the last 3 years of budgets. Pastor Craig asks council members to be thinking about church salaries. Meeting dates TBD. Stewardship Plans were laid out by Pastor Craig and Rob Williams. Nov 26th is Consecration Sunday. Temple talks will be on Nov 5, Nov 12, and Nov 19. Dave Stein will give the Nov 12 talk.

Car Show Date July 27; Other dates set: next Computer Class, Oct 14th; Oct 27th Bonfire to burn the mortgage!! Ric Warner will check with city about permit. Plan to have chili, apple cider, hot dogs etc.

Committee Reports: 5-Year Plan review: Tabled

Worship: no report

Mission/Outreach/LSIM/MUCC: Mac & Cheese and Jelly will be needed again for the Helping Hands Baskets at Christmas time.

Property: Les Barker mowing is going well, winding down for the year. Ric Warner will arrange for end of the year maintenance to be done on the mowers.

Youth/Christian Education/ Preschool: no report.

Stewardship: as above

Fellowship: as above

Motion to adjourn Rob Williams, Second: David Stein. All in favor.

Meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted, Suzie Vagedes

October was so fun!

We had so much fun in October. We started the month off with a visit from the firemen, police officers and EMTs. They let us get in their trucks/cars and explore. We really appreciate their willingness to come over!!

We ended the month with our annual Trunk or Treat. We had around 35 cars/families who were able to come out and hand out candy. It was so neat seeing the kids in their costumes and then seeing the parents/family members come out and have fun!

For the month of November, we will be talking about America and also about Thanksgiving and how it came to be.



Our three year old class



Our four year old class



LSIM Food Packaging Event

Save the date:
January 20, 2024

At Abiding Christ Lutheran Church
Morning registration until about 1:00.

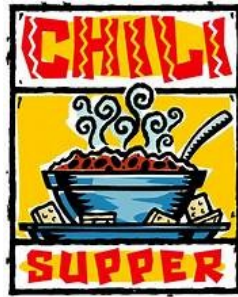
36,000 meals (2.5 pallets)
Last year food went to Ukraine.

Looking for Volunteers
2 Action Teams (Thrivent)
Sign-up coming
Fund Raiser being planned.
More info coming soon!

Ric, Les, Judy, and Jeff, helped fix breakfast for First Lutheran Church - Jeff and Judy not pictured.



Friday, October 27



MORTGAGE
PAID IN FULL



Friday, October 27, 2023





BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

November 2023

- 1 Kelly Jones
- 3 Rusty & Marla Baker
- 9 Adam Barker
- 13 Patty Tipton



- 17 Barbara Cecil
- 18 Judy Gardner
- 26 Matt & Amy Grile

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SERVING

ASSISTING MINISTER

Barbara Cecil

COMMUNION ASSISTANT

David Stein

ALTAR GUILD

Debbie Bredeson

LECTOR

- 5 Marsha Fischbach
- 12 Marsha Fischbach
- 19 Debbie Bredeson
- 26 Debbie Bredeson

USHER CAPTAIN

- 5 Barbara Cecil
- 12 Jarrett Grile
- 19 Dave Vagedes
- 26 Molly Franks

SOUND

Les Barker

COUNTERS

Debbie Bredeson
& Diana Frye

FLOWERS

- 5 In celebration of Rusty & Marla Baker's 34th anniversary
- 12 Given by Gloria Shellhammer
- 19 Available
- 26 Given by Gloria Shellhammer



Pledge Giving Reports

through the end of:

October 2023

Pledges over 10

Pledges under 10

Pledges even 18

Year to date pledge giving short: \$ 368

November 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 9-12 Preschool 3pm Planning	2	3 9-12 Preschool	4 Daylight Savings Ends Fall back 1 hour before bed.
5 All Saints Day 9:30 Choir Practice 10:30 Holy Communion 12 p.m. Christmas Choir Practice	6 9-12 Preschool 7:30 pm AA Mtg.	7	8 9-12 Preschool 3pm Planning	9	10 9-12 Preschool	11
12 9:30 Choir Practice 10:30 Holy Communion 12 p.m. Christmas Choir Practice	13 9-12 Preschool 6:30 pm Pre-school Board Mtg 7:30 pm AA Mtg.	14	15 9-12 Preschool 3pm Planning	16	17 9-12 Preschool	18 Private Party
19 9:30 Choir Practice 10:30 Holy Communion 12 p.m. Christmas Choir Practice	20 9-12 Preschool 11:30 Lydia's Circle 6 pm Council Dinner 7:30 pm AA Mtg.	21 7pm Council Meeting	22 No Preschool No Planning	23 	24 No Preschool	25 
26 Consecration Sunday 9:30 Choir Practice 10:30 Holy Communion Luncheon	27 9-12 Preschool 7:30 pm AA Mtg.	28	29 Advent Begins 3pm Planning 6pm Soup Supper 6:30pm Service	30 		



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,
Judy Tipton, and Patty Tipton

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PASTORAL CARE: Pastor Craig Fourman

Email: craigfourman@yahoo.com

VETERANS DAY



HONORING ALL WHO SERVED

