



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

Pastor's Message

March
2023

THE MESSENGER

Leann and I thank you for your warm welcome. It has been a dream of ours both to one day be able to serve the parish that nurtured us as young adults. We are grateful to have this opportunity!

We are now in the season of Lent, a word derived from the Anglo Saxon word "lointen" meaning to "lengthen" referring to the lengthening of days as Spring returns. Lent is historically a time for reflection; the amendment and renewal of life. But what would be the point of Lent, if it were not for also looking ahead? But for us to move ahead, we need a clear purpose and goal. The five year plan you adopted late last year is a way of marking our journey, we have nearly reached our first year attendance goal, we have made a good beginning. But it is not about numbers only, we have only begun, the journey lies ahead. And I believe you have the capacity and resources to succeed, and even though we will likely not be with you the entire trip, it is our personal commitment to make sure you make a good start!

Good Shepherd lies at a crossroad of its history and while it is encouraging to see faces return to worship that we have not been here for awhile, we have barely begun! We also must commit ourselves to education, fellowship and service! So as we journey onward together, let us not lose sight of our purpose: to be the people of Jesus in this time and place, and to bring the message of His Gospel to all we know and love!

Together In Him,

PC



Lenten Service and Soup Supper

March 1, 8, 15, 22, & 29

Supper at 6:00 p.m. and service at 6:45 p.m.

Sign up for soup donations by
attendance sheets!

Holy Week and Easter Services



Come Worship With Us!

Palm/Passion Sunday - April 2, 10:30 a.m.

Maundy Thursday - April 6 at 6:00 p.m.
Agape Meal/Communion Service

Good Friday Service - April 7 at 7:00 pm

Saturday Easter Vigil - April 8 at 7:00 pm
(at St. John's Lutheran Church, Vandalia)

Easter - April 9 - 9:00 am - Breakfast

9:45 am - Egg Hunt

10:30 am - Service





Council members installed on February 19, 2023, during Sunday Service. Our Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Council members are: Rob Williams, Amy Grile - Vice President, Les Barker - President, Diana Frye, Molly Franks, Pastor Craig Fourman, Ray Louis, David Stein, Suzie Vagedes - Secretary, and Toby Theis Financial Secretary and Worship. Not pictured Ric Warner - Treasurer

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
Congregational Meeting Minutes
January 29, 2023

Opening prayer: Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart hymn was sung.

Call to Order: President Ric Warner called the meeting to order and determined that a quorum was present.

Approval of Minutes: Suzie Vagedes read the minutes of the last Congregational meeting from October 9, 2022. Motion to approve minutes as read, Toby Theis. Second, Arlene Warner. All were in favor. Minutes approved.

NEW BUSINESS:

2023 Budget approval- The 2023 Budget was presented to the congregation. Motion to approve the budget was made by Barb Theis and seconded by Les Barker. Some discussion followed regarding increases in utilities and Pastor Craig Fourman's interim pastor package. It was noted that if we are able to hire a new pastor before the end of 2023 that we will have to revise the budget. All were in favor of the 2023 budget as written. Budget approved.

Election of Church Council members-Four new Council members were nominated by Les Barker: Molly Franks, Amy Grile, Ray Lewis and Rob Williams. Motion to accept the four nominations was made by Marsha Fischbach, and Peri Bonner seconded. All were in favor.

Announcements: On behalf of the Council, Suzie Vagedes thanked Ric Warner for his years of service as Council President.

Motion to adjourn was made by Donna Plunkett, Second, Les Barker. All were in favor. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Suzie Vagedes

Good Shepherd Lutheran Preschool News:



A quick look at February...

February was a fun month. We had a Valentine's Party and ate some good food and passed out our Valentine's cards to everyone.

In class this month we talked about Groundhog day and the kids were very frustrated that he saw his shadow. We also had fun with Valentine's Day activities and learning about zoos. Next month we are looking forward to learning about space, St. Patrick's Day, rainbows and construction workers and their vehicles.

Please share with your family and friends that on March 5 from 2-4PM we will have our open house for the 2023-2024 school year.



SHROVE TUESDAY



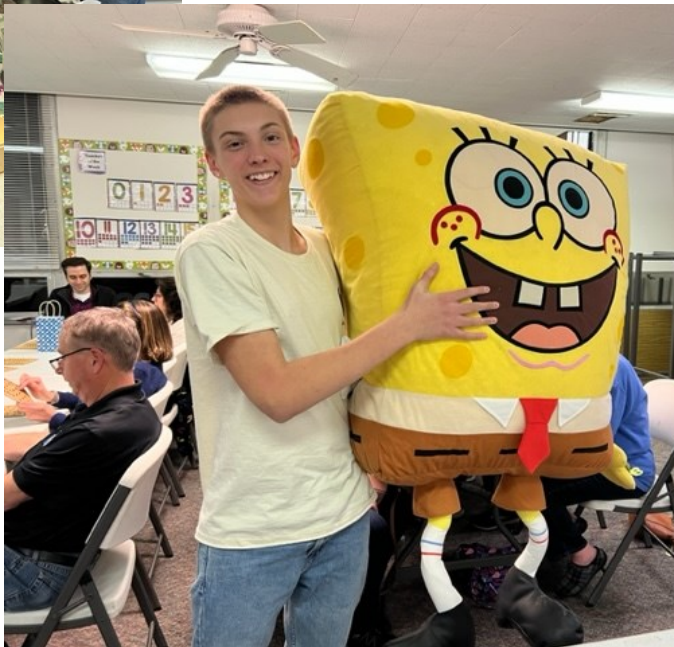
Pancake Supper



& Bingo!



Grand Prize
Bingo Winner -
Nathan Blakley





Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

Council Meeting Minutes

January 17, 2023

Present: Les Barker, Vice President; Pastor Craig Fourman; David Stein; Toby Theis; Suzie Vagedes and Ric Warner, President

Meeting was called to order by Ric Warner.

Opening prayer was offered by Pastor Craig.

Secretary's Report: Minutes were approved as written. Motion: Toby Theis, Second: Les Barker. All were in favor.

Financial Secretary's Report: Motion to approve as written: Dave Stein, Second: Les Barker. All were in favor.

Treasurer's Report: Motion to approve: Toby Theis, Second: Dave Stein. All were in favor.

Pastor's Report: No report

NEW BUSINESS:

Council Nominees – Ric will reach out to see if anyone is willing to serve prior to the congregational meeting.

2023 Budget- Ric Warner presented the 2023 budget and reviewed with Council members. After discussion it was agreed that the Catechism and Luth Youth should remain at \$250 and \$200, respectively, and that the Synod Assembly would be adjusted to \$200. Les Barker motioned to present the budget with changes as above to the congregation at the Congregational Meeting on Sunday, January 22. Dave Stein, seconded. All were in favor. Motion approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

Proposed Fourman Contract- Ric Warner discussed with Bob Abrams the contract for the establishment of Pastor Craig Fourman as part-time Interim Pastor. Bob stated that we needed to approve the contract through Council, but that it did not need to be voted on by the Congregation. Les Barker motioned to approve Pastor Fourman as Interim Pastor as stated in the contract. Second: Suzie Vagedes. All were in favor. Motion approved.

5-Year Plan – Ric is working on scheduling some seminars: CPR and AED certification through the parish nurse, Beth Ewing, and a basic computer class

Amy Grile have been discussing the idea of a Reunion/Homecoming of Good Shepherd young adults. Thinking to include a meal and a time of fellowship, but also want to pick their brains about what they are looking for in a church and what GSLC could do to get young families to come and come back to church. All were receptive to the idea and additional brainstorming included having it in the summer so we could be outside; having it in September and incorporating it into an Oktoberfest-type celebration.

Pastor search – Pastor Craig updated the council on the issues that are playing out at Synod level while we wait to hear news of any progress. Bob Abrams is looking at all the seminaries in the area now. Pastor Craig stated that Good Shepherd is positioned well to attract quality candidates and encouraged Council to continue to do what we're doing (work on implementing our 5-year plan) and try to be patient as we wait.

Committee Reports:

Worship: No report

Mission/Outreach/LSIM/MUCC: Becky Garrett is asking for help with dollar donations for Bulldog Bags. As food prices are rising, it is costing more to supply the weekend lunch food bags. Possible solutions: Thrivent grants, contact Clothesline for a donation to be matched by Thrivent.

Property: Les Barker reported that the parking lot lights will be replaced once he has bought, borrowed or rented a lift. Dave Stein is working on the down spout. Pastor Craig offered free filing cabinets; he was referred to JoAnn as she was needing some for her office.

Youth/Christian Education/Preschool: no report.

Stewardship: No report.

Fellowship: No report

Motion to Adjourn Council Meeting: Dave Stein, Second: Les Barker. All in favor.

Meeting adjourned with The Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,
Suzie Vagedes

WELCOME



Pastor Craig Fourman is our new Interim Pastor. We are so thankful that he is with us.



Remember on Saturday, March 11, spring ahead one hour before going to bed!

*"Give generously to them and do so without a grudging heart; then because of this the LORD your God will bless you in all your work and in everything you put your hand to."
Deuteronomy 15:10 (NIV)*



A huge hug and thank you to whomever brought in the shoes and boots and other items for Downtown Dayton ministry. Many thanks!!!



Michael Wayne Smith concert

Saturday, April 22

at Good Shepherd

Gray plastic bags needed for planning mats for the homeless. We do not need tan or white bags.
Thanks!



BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

March 2023



M

- 4 Nicki Tinnerman
- 5 Rusty Baker
- 7 Leah Ford
- 9 Diana Frye
- 16 Susan Langley
Nova Rogers

- 17 Rebecca Mason
- 18 Emil & Patty Tipton
- 22 Jonathan Bredeson
- 25 Breanna Ely
- 30 Jerry Bonner
- 31 Mimi Klepstine

A

SERVING

R

ASSISTING MINISTER

Kristine Hayes

COMMUNION ASSISTANT

David Stein

ALTAR GUILD

Debbie Bredeson
& Kea Blankenship

C

LECTOR

- 5 Judy Moncrief
- 12 Judy Moncrief
- 19 Jeff Barth
- 26 Jeff Barth

USHER CAPTAIN

- 5 Donna Plunkett
- 12 Jarrett Grile
- 19 Dave Vagedes
- 26 Molly Franks

SOUND

Rusty Baker

H

FLOWERS

- 5 Ric & Arlene Warner
- 12 David & Suzie Vagedes
- 19 In memory of Brittanie Cecil from Barb & Bob
- 26 available

COUNTERS

Debbie Bredesen
& Diana Frye



Pledge Giving Reports

through the end of: February 2023

Pledges over 10

Pledges under 7

Pledges even 20

Year to date pledge giving over : \$ 11,339

March 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 9-12 Preschool 3:30 -5:30 pm Planning 6 pm Soup Supper 6:45 Service	2	3 9-12 Preschool	4
5 9:30 am Choir Practice 10:30 am Holy Communion 2-4 pm Preschool Open House	6 9-12 Preschool 7:30 pm AA Mtg.	7	8 9-12 Preschool 3:30 -5:30 pm Planning 6 pm Soup Supper 6:45 Service	9	10 9-12 Preschool	11 Set clocks ahead one hour before going to bed.
12 Daylight Savings 9:30 am Choir Practice 10:30 am Holy Communion	13 9-12 Preschool 7:30 pm AA Mtg.	14	15 9-12 Preschool 3:30 -5:30 pm Planning 6 pm Soup Supper 6:45 Service	16	17 9-12 Preschool	18
19 9:30 am Choir Practice 10:30 am Holy Communion	20 9-12 Preschool 12:30 Lydia's Study 7:30 pm AA Mtg.	21 7 pm Council Meeting	22 9-12 Preschool 3:30 -5:30 pm Planning 6 pm Soup Supper 6:45 Service	23	24 No Preschool	25
26 9:30 am Choir Practice 10:30 am Holy Communion	27 9-12 Preschool 7:30 pm AA Mtg.	28	29 9-12 Preschool 3:30 -5:30 pm Planning 6 pm Soup Supper 6:45 Service	30	31	



Milton-Union Bulldog Bags

P.O. Box 93
West Milton, OH 45383

Dear Good Shepherd Lutheran Church,

Milton-Union Bulldog Bags is a program that assists the elementary school families in the Milton-Union School District. Families have the option to opt-in to our program each school year. Children who opt-in to the program receive a bag of food each week to take home that has supplemental food for over the weekend.

Milton-Union Bulldog Bags started in October 2016 with 30 students getting served each week. This school year, 2022-2023, we are serving 200 students each Friday. We have been truly blessed by our community with their overflowing generosity and prayers.

Each Thursday we have around 10 amazing adult volunteers come and set up our food. Once the food is set up a Freshmen Focus class from the high school comes down and packages our bags for us. A group of students then passes the bags out to the elementary rooms. The teachers give the students their bags on Friday mornings to take home for the weekend. This project has truly become a great service opportunity for so many students in our school district.

We are currently looking for donations to finish off the 2022-2023 school year and jump start us into the next school year. We are reaching out to the businesses and churches within our district to ask for help. Milton-Union Bulldog Bags is a 501(c)(3) organization (EIN: 84-4588036) and your donation may be tax-deductible. If you choose to donate, please send your donation to the above P.O. Box. A donation receipt will be sent to each donor after we receive your gift.

Thank you for your consideration. Please reach out if you have any questions.

God Bless,

Becky Garrett

MU Bulldog Bags Director

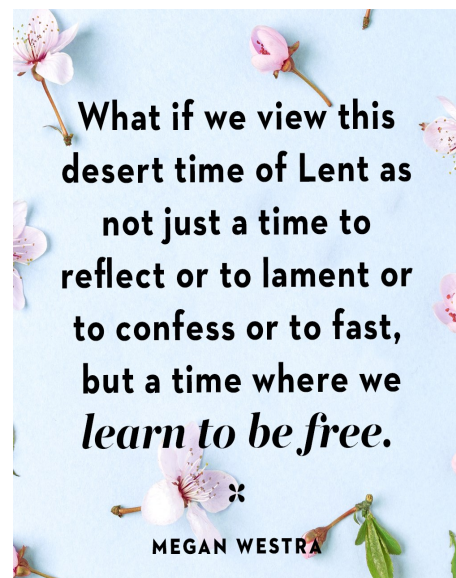
ragarrett15@gmail.com

Lent IS A TIME TO GROW CLOSER TO JESUS

Millions of Christians all over the world marked the start of an important period of time on February 22, 2023.

During Lent, many people decide to give something up that they love - perhaps chocolate, sweets or even using social media. Others might decide to take up something, like helping out more at home or making an effort to be nicer to their brother or sister.

Lent is a time to prepare for the joy and the promise of the Easter celebration. Today as in the past the message of Lent is one of Joyous Hope. Lent offers a new beginning through inner change and penance, true freedom and a new life are made possible.





Our Church Staff

Craig Fourman
Interim Pastor

Marsha Fischbach
Music Director

Darrell Fryman
Pianist

JoAnn Antonides
Administrative Asst.

Prayers and Concerns

Chuck Franks, Bill Sims, Jeff Theis, Judy Tipton,
Patty Tipton, and for the next pastor of
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

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