

THE FLOCK'S NEWS

NOVEMBER 2018

KNOCK! KNOCK!

“So I say to you: Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened.” (Luke 11:9-10)



Do you like knock knock jokes? I do and I hope you do too because I have a couple for you.

Knock knock: Who's there? Tank. Tank who? You're welcome!!

Knock knock: Who's there? Canoe. Canoe who? Canoe come out and play?

Knock knock: Who's there? Orange. Orange who? Orange you glad this is my last knock knock joke?

Enough knock knock jokes?! How about a riddle? Do you know how a knock knock joke is like a prayer? If you do not go “knock knock!” nothing happens. Let me explain what I mean.

One day Jesus was teaching his Disciples how to pray. Suppose you went to a friend's house late at night and said to him, I need to borrow some bread. I have a friend visiting and I have nothing for him to eat. The friend answers, it is late we are in bed; I am not getting out of bed to get you some bread. However, if you keep knocking and wake everyone in the neighborhood, he will get up and give you some bread. Then Jesus said to them, “Ask and what you ask for will be given to you. For everyone who asks, will receive what he asks for. Everyone who looks will find what he is looking for. Everyone who knocks will have the door opened to them.”

Jesus was trying to make them understand and he wants us to understand, that when we ask of the Father, we receive. When we seek God, we find him. When we knock, God opens the door.

Knock knock: Who's there? God is there and he answers our prayer! The next time you pray the Lord's Prayer listen to the prayer and the words t you say.

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us: lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory forever and ever.

Amen.

Guy French, Council President

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SHARING GOD'S ABUNDANT GRACE

A MESSAGE FROM THE TREASURER

It is already November and as a nation we celebrate a day of thanks! In the midst of the Civil War, President Abraham Lincoln proclaimed a national day of Thanksgiving which has been celebrated every year since 1863. While Good Shepherd is not in the midst of war, the congregation has had a rather tumultuous year. Our Pastors of 18 years submitted their letter of resignation in the spring and celebrated their last active day with the congregation on August 12th.



And since August 31st, we have been on a journey unlike any we have had in recent years. Giving has been up, giving has been down! Attendance has been up, attendance has been down! Just think all those that are less than 18 years old have never known this congregation without a pastor until now. Every day brings new questions, new concerns and while I'm not a fan of "this is how we have always done it" I find myself asking does anyone know where this is or how did we do this in the past. The learning curve for both the congregation and the congregational leaders has been an experience for which I cannot find the words to describe.

And today I sit and write the November newsletter article and realize just how grateful I am. It is the month to give thanks and we have so much to be thankful for. It is our collective gifts of time, talent and treasure that will carry the congregation through this very trying time. Each of us needs to look at every situation through a new lens – a lens of thankfulness and gratefulness. While we may not always be happy for how something goes or happens, we need to be thankful that we have leaders and members willing to try. We need to continue to worship together to strengthen our community of faith. As the body of Christ, nothing can prevent us from accomplishing great things when we work together.

So today I give thanks ...

Libby Yeager, Treasurer

KNITTING & CROCHETING GROUP

The Knitting & Crocheting group will be meeting on the first Monday of the month for the fourth quarter of 2018 (November 5, December 3). The members of the group work on individual projects while sharing a time of fellowship. Don't know how to knit or crochet? No problem! The members of the group will help you get started as well as provide assistance when you hit a problem.





Gifts large and small make a difference to the congregation and the community. Many times we forget the small gifts, especially the mundane, when we acknowledge the work of various members and teams.

Small gifts that make a difference:

October Communion Assistants: Evelyn Jones, Sally Ritchie, Wilma Gardner, Kay Korb, Helen Johns, Carl Hurst, Brooke Yeager & Lois Myers

October Altar Guild: Wilma Gardner, Lisa Cardoni, Betty Derr, Susan Patsko and Mary Alice Patsko

Confirmation Instruction: Wilma Gardner, Kay Korb, Daren Bernecker

Building Repairs: Mark Scaramastro, Jayson Yeager, Brooke Yeager, Guy French Jr.

November 4 Mailing: Guy French, Guy French, Jr. Adrienne French, Dawn Gallagher, Brooke Yeager

Materials Removal: Dan Jacobs

Counters: Liz Keator, Gary Smith, Chris Casazza, Sally Ritchie, Gary Phillips, Daren Bernecker, Jane Hensley, Viktoria Yeager, Lynn Muchler-Stash, Carol Phillips, Kay Korb & Guy French

Children's Halloween Party: Lynn Muchler-Stash, Dawn Gallagher, Debbie Habib, Bob Martin, Dan Martin, Katie Gallagher, Vincent Barbarieo

Add to the list of thanks! Send your suggestions for our thanks page to the church office.

POINSETTIA ORDERS



Poinsettia orders are due December 2, 2018. Red, white and pink will be available again this year. Cost is \$6.50/ plant. Order forms will be available from the Ushers at Sunday morning worship. You may also call the Church Office to get a form.

SERVANTS NEEDED

Do you have a free hour or two? Do you like to visit with others? If yes, please join the team to visit shut-ins. Kay Korb is coordinating the visitation team. Call the Church Office and leave a message if interested in assisting with this vital congregational ministry.



"I was
sick and
you visited
me . . ."
—Matthew 25:36 NKJV

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING: NOVEMBER 4

The Semi-annual Congregational Meeting will be held next Sunday, November 4th starting at 12:15pm in the sanctuary. Agenda items include the 2019 Budget, update on the transition process and For the Good of Good Shepherd. Mark your calendar!



WELCA: BIBLE STUDY

The Women of the ELCA will meet on Tuesday, November 13th at 6:30 pm in the Good Shepherd Center. We will be doing session 2 of the Bible study on Repentance, which is in the October issue of Gather magazine. We will also be discussing future projects for our group. All women are invited to attend. Call Jane Hensley (570-829-4394) if you have any questions.

MOTHER THERESA HAVEN

Good Shepherd will be home for the Mother Theresa Haven for 2 weeks - November 5th through November 18th. The shelter opens at 5 pm each night and the men will leave by 8 am the next morning. We have been asked to provide for evening meals. Please sign up in the Narthex. Guy French is coordinating the ministry for Good Shepherd.



HURRICANE DISASTER APPEAL

Lutheran Disaster Response is supporting relief efforts to respond to the needs of those affected by Hurricane Florence and Hurricane Michael. Your gifts ensure our church will be able to provide help and hope to those affected. Place your gift in a Green Envelope with the notation Disaster Appeal.



NOVEMBER WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

November 4

Communion Assistants: Lois & Richard Myers (8:30); Elizabeth Keator, John Daley (11:00)

Lectors: Gary Smith (8:30); Elizabeth Keator (11:00)

Greeters: Helen Johns (8:30); Brian & Fran Yekel (11:00)

Ushers: Cliff Jones, Richard Raspen (8:30); Linda Accurso, Brooke Yeager, Brian & Elizabeth Heck (11:00)

Counters: Liz Keator, Gary Smith, Chris Casazza

November 11

Communion Assistants: Helen Johns, Richard Raspen (8:30); Kay Korb, Libby Yeager (11:00)

Lectors: Dan Jacobs (8:30); Wilma Gardner (11:00)

Greeters: Gary & Donna Smith (8:30); Wilma & Gary Gardner (11:00)

Ushers: Carl Hurst, Dan Jacobs (8:30); Brian & Fran Yekel, Jane Newman & Tionna Manigo (11:00)

Counters: Sally Ritchie, Gary Phillips, Daren Bernecker

November 18

Communion Assistants: Sally Ritchie, Richard Raspen (8:30); Dawn Gallagher, Wilma Gardner (11:00)

Lectors: Doris Romanowski (8:30); Ariana Taylor (11:00)

Greeters: Barry & Doris Romanowski (8:30); Debbie Dervinis (11:00)

Ushers: Barry & Doris Romanowski (8:30); Debbie Dervinis, Gabby Gregoire, Darren & Alex Martin (11:00)

Counters: Jane Hensley, Lynn Muchler-Stash, Carol Phillips

November 25

Communion Assistants: Diane Martin, Evelyn Jones (8:30); Libby Yeager Kay Korb (11:00)

Lectors: Diane Martin (8:30); John Daley (11:00)

Greeters: Diane Martin (8:30); Bea Bryan (11:00)

Ushers: Doris & Barry Romanowski (8:30); Brooke Yeager, Charlene Moules, Karen Figel, Brian Yekel (11:00)

Counters: Guy French, Kay Korb, Viktoria Yeager

Altar Guild: Kay Korb, Charlene Moules, Carol Phillips, Brooke Fisher