

# THE FLOCK'S NEWS

FEBRUARY 2019

## WELCOME TO THE NEW YEAR

**HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!!!!** Ok I am a bit late but still it is the beginning of a new year. Do you have any traditions? We just usually stay up and watch the ball drop, that is if I can stay awake. In the Midwest, some families have an interesting way of celebrating .If you were daring enough, at midnight you would run around your house in the snow in your bare feet. Once back inside they would dry off and sit to warm their toes and have some hot chocolate. Running through snow barefoot was a way to wake up to the New Year and look forward with excitement to the adventures and challenges in the coming year. I am sure I would not be one of those running, I would prefer to stay in where it is warm and watch the others.

During this next year all of us will have to do things we may not like, like running barefoot in the snow. But remember one thing, no matter what good or bad, Jesus is always with us. Jesus, thank you for being with us through the bad and the good. Thank you for helping us to do the things that are hard for us but must be done, **Amen.**

Guy French,  
Council President

### In This Issue

Treasurer's Message	page 2
Thank You!	page 3
Vacation Bible School	page 4
WELCA	page 4
Finance Update	page 5
Cookbook	page 5
Worship Assts.	page 6



## A MESSAGE FROM THE TREASURER

**Happy New Year!**

**2019 is here and Good Shepherd is in the middle of the pastoral transition. The Congregation leadership has been very busy working on each of the steps required for us to call a new pastor. The work required to call a new pastor is extensive and requires active participation of all members of the congregation.**

**As we move forward, the Call Committee will be the congregation's leaders in the process. Each member of the Call Committee will work to represent the entire needs of the congregation as they consider a potential pastor. The leadership has identified a diverse call committee that will have a feel on the needs of all members of the congregation.**

**While the Call Committee is working on the call, the Church Leadership will be working diligently to maintain the operations and ministries of the Church. And this is where each of you has a role to play. We have a number of ministries that need to continue as we search for a spiritual leader. These ministries are only vibrant if each of us takes a small role in making them happen.**

**While we are maintaining current ministries, we also need to be exploring new ministries. Good Shepherd has committed to remaining in the City of Wilkes-Barre. We actively support a number of needed community services such as the CEO Food Bank, various Narcotics Anonymous Groups and Mother Theresa Haven. But what are OUR ministries that serve our downtown community! Do we have any ministries that serve the needs of the community? Do we have any ideas for new ministries?**

**Good Shepherd passed new By-Laws a few years ago. The goal of the new By-Laws was to open the doors for "teams" to lead us in new directions. The Congregation Council put together training materials to assist the "teams" and hosted training. Yet we have experienced no new ministries. As we move forward in the call process, what will the Call Committee tell the candidate? Will they be able to describe a vibrant, active community or will they only be able to describe a content community doing what they have always done?**

**Good Shepherd has a new year! What we do with the new year is up to each of us! What choice will you make? What role will you play?**

**May God grant you the strength to grow in 2019**

**Libby Yeager, Treasurer**





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:

**Building Repairs: Gary Smith**

**Mother Theresa Haven Meals: Bea Bryan, Rich Raspen, Joanne Chipego, Gallagher Family, Emma Lipfert, Elaine Jones, Doris and Barry Romanowski, Ellen Gula, Gary and**

**Donna Smith, Karen Figel, Charlene Moules, the Heck Family, The Frenches. Darlene Deronde, Lois Myers and Debbie Dervinus**

**Shut-In Visitation: Kay Korb, Gary and Donna Smith, Brooke and Libby Yeager**

**Sanctuary & Narthex Decorating: Viktoria Yeager, Guy French, Gloria Burnside, Lynn Muchler-Stash, Brooke Yeager, Libby Yeager**

**Tree Decorating: Charlene Moules, Gary Phillips, Lynn Muchler-Stash, Kay Korb, Wilma Gardner, Sandy Gorr, Donna Yaple, Karen Figel**

**Tree: Guy French, Guy French Jr, Bob Martin, Gary Phillips, Brooke Yeager, Viktoria Yeager, Gary Smith, Brian Yekel.**

**Christmas Eve Trumpeteers: John Daley, Sarah Daley**

**December and January Altar Guild: Tammy Ioanna, Sandy Gorr, Lynn Muchler-Stash, Bea Bryan, Donna Yaple, Debbie Habib, Kay Korb, Charlene Moules, Carol Phillips and Brooke Fisher**

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

**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.



*Think Spring....*

*....Think Summer....*

*....Think VBS*



**Mark your calendar for Vacation Bible School**

**Monday, June 17<sup>th</sup> thru Friday, June 21<sup>st</sup> 2019.**

**Our theme is**

**“Follow your Dreams” (The story of Joseph)**

**Our next organizational meeting for VBS will be Saturday, March 16, 2019 from 9:30 to 11:00 am in the Fellowship Hall.**

**There are many volunteer opportunities for VBS. Phone callers and Fun Time leaders are two important areas where volunteers are needed. Please contact Donna Smith, 570-474-2912, for additional information.**

**Mark your calendars and plan to join the VBS Team!!!!**

**Your ideas and help are much appreciated!!!!**

**WELCA: BIBLE STUDY**

**The February meeting of the Women of the ELCA will be on the 12th at 6:30pm in the Good Shepherd Center. We will be discussing Session 2 of our current Bible study, “Meeting with Jesus”, which is in the January/February issue of “Gather” magazine. All women are welcome!**

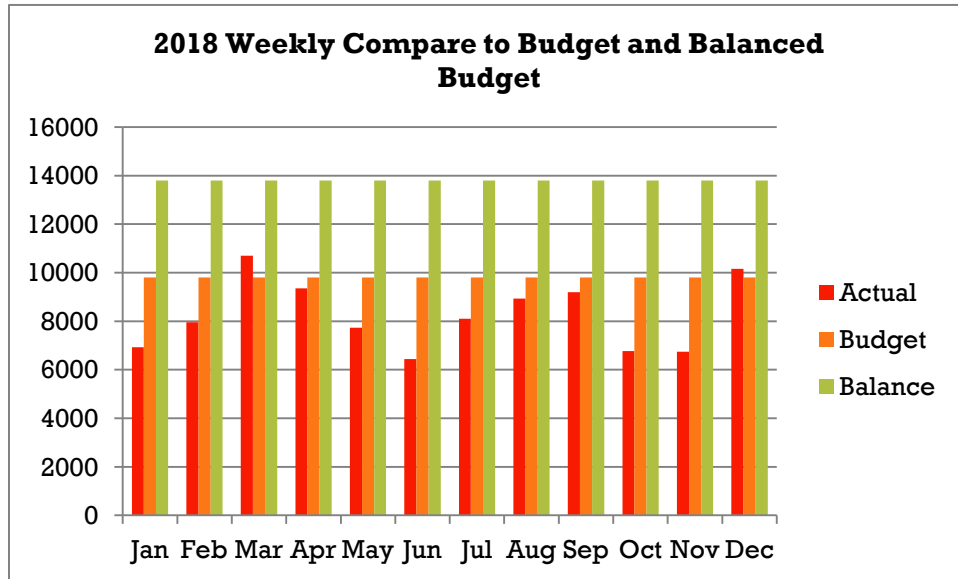
**Call Jane Hensley, 570-829-4394, for more information.**



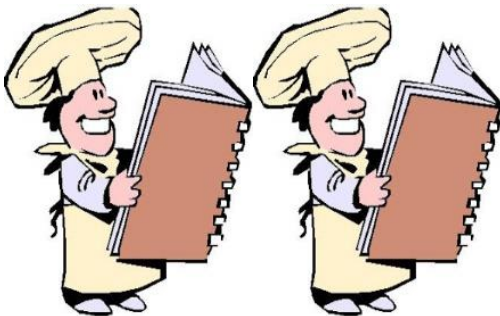
**FASTNACHT 2019**

**“Join GSL Under the Big Top”, Tuesday, March 5<sup>th</sup>, in the Fellowship Hall. Dinner is at 5:30 pm; entertainment begins at 6:30 pm. Sign-up sheets are available to help with food, set-up, and clean-up. Everyone is welcome to join in the fun and fellowship!**

**FINANCE UPDATE**



Each month the newsletter will have a finance update. As a result of the income study, Finance has developed some charts which provide information on our current financial picture. This month's graph compares actual giving to the 2018 budget projected amount as well as to the amount needed each month for a balanced budget. If you have any questions, please see a member of the Finance Team or the Treasurer. In the 2018 only two (2) months exceeded the budget.



**COOKBOOK**

Good Shepherd's cookbook is now available. They are on sale after church services. Cost is \$10 per book. Checks may be made payable to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church. See a team member for a cookbook. We still have some cookbooks available so "get 'em' while they are hot"!

**OUR CHURCH FAMILY**

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**Deaths**

***Our prayers of sympathy are with the family of George Wolfe who passed away. Rest eternal grant him, O Lord; and let light perpetual shine upon him.***

***Our prayers of sympathy are with the family of Pastor James Bowers who passed away. Rest eternal grant him, O Lord; and let light perpetual shine upon him.***

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**New Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Secretary Intern**

**Hello,**

**My name is Rebecca Martinez. I will be the Intern at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church beginning January 28, 2019 until mid-April. This Internship is part of my curriculum for the Associate Degree in Office Information Technology at Luzerne County Community College. I hope to graduate this Spring 2019 and find work with in this field and use all the skills that I have acquired, plus the experience I will gain at Good Shepherd.**

**Besides being a student, I am wife to Alberto, and mother to my daughter Kaily and son Kasey. We currently reside in Berwick and have family in Bloomsburg and Danville area, in the state of Massachusetts, and Italy. I come from a diverse background and therefore enjoy learning new ideas and different people.**

**I am looking forward to working at Good Shepherd and hope to meet some of its Members during my internship here.**

**Sincerely,**

**Rebecca Martinez**

**Good Shepherd Intern**

**FEBRUARY WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS****February 3**

**Communion Assistants:** Helen Johns, Evelyn Jones (8:30); Kay Korb, Libby Yeager (11:00)

**Lectors:** Gary Smith (8:30); Kay Korb (11:00)

**Greeters:** Helen Johns (8:30); TBA (11:00)

**Ushers:** Cliff Jones, Gary Smith (8:30); Brooke Yeager, Daren Bernecker, Jane Newman (11:00)

**Counters:** Sally Ritchie, Gary Phillips, Daren Bernecker

**February 10**

**Communion Assistants:** Sallie Ritchie, Carl Hurst (8:30); Elizabeth Keator, John Daley (11:00)

**Lectors:** Dan Jacobs (8:30); John Daley (11:00)

**Greeters:** Barry & Doris Romanowski (8:30); Jean Zinn (11:00)

**Ushers:** Barry & Doris Romanowski (8:30); Harry & Elizabeth Heck, Brian & Fran Yekel (11:00)

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

**February 17**

**Communion Assistants:** Helen Johns, Evelyn Jones (8:30) Brooke Yeager and Jane Newman (11:00)

**Lectors:** Jane Hensley (8:30); Lisa Martin (11:00)

**Greeters:** Jane Hensley (8:30); Bea Bryan (11:00)

**Ushers:** Carl Hurst, Dan Jacobs (8:30); Debbie Dervinis, Gabby Gregoire, Charlene Moules, Karen Figel (11:00)

**Counters:** Guy French, Kay Korb, Viktoria Yeager

**February 24**

**Communion Assistants:** Lois & Richard Myers (8:30); Kay Korb and John Daley (11:00)

**Lectors:** Doris Romanowski (8:30); Susan Patsko (11:00)

**Greeters:** Gary & Donna Smith (8:30); Lisa and Daren Martin (11:00)

**Ushers:** Doris & Barry Romanowski (8:30); Linda Accurso, Ellen Rutkowski, Gary & Wilma Gardner (11:00)

**Counters:** Liz Keator, Gary Smith, Chris Casazza

**Altar Guild:** Sandy Gorr, Donna Yaple, Bea Bryan, Lynn Muchler-Stash

