

# THE FLOCK'S NEWS

MARCH 2019

## IS IT SPRING YET

**“Is it spring yet, is it spring yet, is it spring yet!....” I am sure many of us remember going on long trips with our children, or as children going with our parents, and saying or hearing are we there yet. Well I have been hearing a lot from people wondering where spring is. I know spring is coming and it always comes year after year, but as I get older it seems to take longer and longer. It just does not seem to come fast enough...the flowers poking up from their winter sleep, the may songbirds returning, and the warmth from the sun. It is a time of renewal of rebirth. During this time of lent we prepare ourselves through prayer, sacrifices, and reflection for what is about to come. Our release from sin is through the sacrifice of the Lamb.**

**Guy French, Council  
President**

### In This Issue

**Treasurer's Message  
Finance Update**  
page 2

**Thank You!, Cookbook**  
page 3

**Vacation Bible School,  
Lending Library, Servants  
Needed,** page 4

**WELCA, Book Swap, Palm  
Stripping** page 5

**Campership, Help Needed,  
Easter Lilies** page 6

**Our Church Family,  
Worship Assistants**  
page 7

**We will be continuing our Lenten Bible Studies on Wednesday night. Soup is at 5:00 to 6:00 PM and Bible Study is at 7:00 PM. Our studies will be about “*Living Our Baptism... Five Gifts Of Discipleship... During Lent*”**

**When a baptized Christian affirms the faith (often called confirmation) the presiding minister addresses those making public affirmation of baptism and asks the question: Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism:**

- ✿ to live among God's faithful people
- ✿ to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper
- ✿ to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed
- ✿ to serve all people, following the example of Jesus
- ✿ to strive for justice and peace in all the earth



---

## *A Message from the treasurer*

Transition ... a word that has become a regular part of my vocabulary in recent months and a word that is pushing me to rethink. Each and every day, as I work through our current transition, I ask myself what should I have done, what could I have done better and what must I do to move forward. I realize as each day in the transition opens new challenges and that when there is an easy way, we will take it. And sadly, we as a congregation became comfortable and in that comfort zone we stopped doing the things that make a church a vibrant, growing church. This transition has caused us to change and our period of transition is not over, but I see the light!

I see the light! But the light has not reached its full brightness, but I see the light! As a congregation, we are beginning to take control of our destiny. We are meeting each challenge as it arises, and we are developing a solution and working the solution. And it is a comfort to see more and more members involved in working the solution. And as each solution pulls more and more members into the process, our light becomes brighter.

This time of transition is just that, a time of transition. The members of the congregation will determine how we, as a congregation, come out of the transition. We still have much work to do but we have the time, talent and treasure to come out of this transition stronger than ever. Each of you will determine how strong this congregation will be at the end of the transition.

Take the challenge! Evaluate your gifts and put them to work doing ministry at the corner of South and South Main. Make Good Shepherd the strongest Lutheran Church in the NEPA Synod.

I see the light! Do you?

---

## **FINANCE UPDATE**

**This is a new year (yes the Treasurer knows it is March)! Finance is going to play with some different ways of providing an update each month. Please remember the update will always be a month behind as the information for the previous month is not yet available by the newsletter deadline.**

**Weekly White Envelope giving consists of all funds contributed in a white envelope except for funds designated Building Fund.**

	<i>Income</i>		<i>Expenses</i>
	Average Weekly White Envelope	Total	Total
January	\$1,762.42	\$7,579.90	\$6,800.97

---

## **2018 CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS**

PLEASE CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE, IF YOU HAVE NOT RECEIVED YOUR 2018 CONTRIBUTION STATEMENT AND DESIRE ONE FOR TAX PURPOSES. DUE TO MAILING COSTS, THE CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS WERE DISTRIBUTED AFTER WORSHIP SERVICES IN JANUARY. THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT OF GOOD SHEPHERD.

**JIM PARKS, FINANCIAL SECRETARY**

---



***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 we acknowledge their contributions.***

**A special “Thank you!” to members of the counting teams.**

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

**Building Repairs: Gary Smith**

**Building Cleaning: Gail George, Lynn Yekel, Bea Bryan, Brian Yekel, Fran Yekel, Linda Accurso, Jane Hensley, Harry Heck, Liz Heck**

**Building Cleaning Coordinator: Gary Smith**

**Snow Removal: Brian Yekel, Matt Yekel, Harry Heck**

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

---



## **COOKBOOK**

**The Good Shepherd’s cookbook is 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!”\***

---

---

## LENDING LIBRARY

Interested in developing your faith? Looking for something different to read or watch? Good Shepherd has a library of resources available for loan. The library is in the Conference Room (also referred to as the Counting Room) adjacent to the Pastor's Office. Stop by on a Sunday morning or during the week when the Intern is available to see the wide array of materials available.

---

## 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)**

**Saturday March 16 is the next planning session for VBS 2019. The VBS Team will meet in the Fellowship Hall from 9:30-11:00am.**

**There are many volunteer opportunities for VBS. Phone callers and Game Team openings have been identified. Please contact Donna Smith for additional information.**

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

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





## WELCA: BIBLE STUDY

The Women of the ELCA will meet on Tuesday, March 12th, at 6:30pm in the Good Shepherd Center. Because last month's meeting had to be cancelled due to the weather, we will do February's Bible study at the March meeting. It is Session 2 of "Meetings with Jesus" and is in the Jan./Feb. issue of "Gather" magazine. New folks are welcome to come to our meetings. Call Jane Hensley, 570-829-4394, for more information.

---

## BOOK SWAP NOW OFFERED

A BOOK SWAP TABLE HAS BEEN SET UP IN THE FELLOWSHIP ROOM FOR PEOPLE WHO STILL LOVE TO READ "REAL" BOOKS ... COMPLETE WITH COVERS AND PAGES TO TURN.

YOU CAN LEAVE A BOOK OR TAKE A BOOK. BRING IT BACK OR PASS IT ON TO SOMEONE ELSE. IT'S A HOME FOR HARDCOVER BOOKS AND PAPERBACK BOOKS. NOVELS, CHILDREN'S BOOKS, ANYTHING YOU LIKED AND WOULD LIKE TO SHARE.

IT'S SELF-SERVICE, SO PLEASE DO YOUR PART TO KEEP IT TIDY. JUST KEEP READING!



---

## PALM STRIPPING SATURDAY, APRIL 13

IN PREPARATION FOR PALM SUNDAY, GOOD SHEPHERD'S "STRIPPERS" ARE INVITED TO COME OUT ON SATURDAY, APRIL 13 AT 10 A.M. IN THE FELLOWSHIP ROOM TO PREPARE PALMS FOR WORSHIP ON SUNDAY AND FOR THE TRADITIONAL PALM PROCESSION AT 9:45 THROUGH DOWNTOWN WILKES-BARRE. BRING SCISSORS, BRING A FRIEND, AND GET READY TO STRIP! EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

---

## CAMPERSHIP REQUESTS

IT MAY BE COLD OUTSIDE BUT IT'S TIME TO START THINKING ABOUT BEAR CREEK SUMMER CAMP. THROUGH A MEMORIAL, GOOD SHEPHERD AWARDS CAMPERSHIPS TO HELP OFFSET THE COST OF SUMMER CAMP. CHILDREN AND YOUTH IN GRADES 1 THROUGH 12 CAN REQUEST A CAMPERSHIP BY SENDING AN EMAIL TO [FAITHFORMATION@GOODSHERPHERDWB.ORG](mailto:FAITHFORMATION@GOODSHERPHERDWB.ORG) OR DROPPING OFF YOUR REQUEST AT THE CHURCH OFFICE. THE REQUEST MUST BE WRITTEN BY THE CHILD EXPLAINING WHY THEY WANT TO GO TO SUMMER CAMP AND HOW IT WILL HELP THEM GROW IN THEIR FAITH.



---

### **\*YOUR HELP IS NEEDED\***

IN THE ABSENCE OF A SEXTON, VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED TO HELP WITH THE CARE OF OUR CHURCH BUILDING. ANYONE WHO CAN DONATE TIME AND TALENTS, PLEASE CONTACT GARY SMITH AT 570 474-2912 FOR MORE INFORMATION. YOUR HELP IS MUCH APPRECIATED!

---

### **Easter Lily Order**

Orders are now being taken for Easter Lilies at a cost of **\$6.50** per plant in a 6 inch pot with about flowers. Please fill in the order form and return it by **March 25**.



---

## Our Church Family

The Sacrament of Holy Baptism was shared with Ethel Elizabeth Estus daughter of Karla Estus and Jeremy Goble, and Xavier Wade Estus son of Karla Estus and Jeremy Goble during February 10, 2019 11:00 am worship service.

---

### **MARCH WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS**

#### **March 3**

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

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

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

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

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

#### **March 10**

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

**Lectors:** Doris Romanowski (8:30); Sandra Atherton (11:00)

**Greeters:** Barry & Doris Romanowski (8:30); Wilma & Gary Gardner (11:00)

**Ushers:** Carl Hurst, Dan Jacobs (8:30); Debbie Dervinis, Gabby Gregore, Dionne Fisher, Brooke Fisher (11:00)

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

#### **March 17**

**Communion Assistants:** Diane Martin, Lois Myers (8:30); Brooke Yeager, Jane Newman (11:00)

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

**Greeters:** Diane Martin (8:30); Charlene Moules (11:00)

**Ushers:** Richard & Fran Keil (8:30); Harry & Elizabeth Heck (11:00)

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

#### **March 24**

**Communion Assistants:** Evelyn Jones, Sally Ritchie (8:30); Wilma Gardner, Kay Korb (11:00)

**Lectors:** Helen Johns (8:30); Fran Yekel (11:00)

**Greeters:** Jane Hensley (8:30); Karen Figel (11:00)

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

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

#### **March 31**

**Communion Assistants:** Lois & Richard Myers, Sr. (8:30); Libby Yeager Elizabeth Keator (11:00)

**Lectors:** Jane Hensley (8:30); Richard Meyers (11:00)

**Greeters:** Gary & Donna Smith (8:30); TBA (11:00)

**Ushers:** Richard & Fran Keil (8:30); Karen Figel, Charlene Moules (11:00)

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

**Altar GUILD:** Wilma Gardner, Lisa Cardoni, Susan Patsko, Mary Alice Patsko, Betty Derr

---