



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

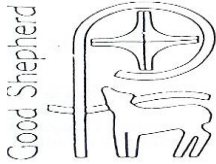
God's work. Our hands.

THE SHEPHERD'S STAFF

Newsletter of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

Volume 18, Issue 12

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Mission Statement of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church is the family of God gathered under our Lord's care, equipped with the good news of Jesus to share God's love with the world.

Good Shepherd Information

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Secretary – Nancy Peterson

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Treasurer –

Joan Fosse

583-4164

W-ELCA President

Carol Zielinski

583-4166

Thank you to all of you for the cards and prayers. Recovery is slow but I am doing much better. Thank you also for the beautiful prayer shawl. Your thoughtfulness is much appreciated.

Gene Seaver

I very much appreciate all the prayers, calls, cards and visits – Thank you! The medication they have me on is helping and I am feeling so much better!

Wayne Rogholt

DECMEBER EVENTS

2ND WELCA CHRISTMAS PARTY
13TH OTC/LYO FOOD PACKING
17TH QUILTING
**24TH CHRISTMAS CONCERT AND
CANDLELIGHT SERVICE**
**25TH CHRISTMAS DAY WORSHIP
WITH HOLY COMMUNION**

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!" (Luke 2:13-14)

Dear Friends,

In this season of light and celebration we are so often reminded of the darkness Jesus came to dispel.

How is it that a young man or woman in the prime of life can die in a tragic accident? How is it that a devastating illness can strike us or someone we love? How is it that forces of terror and evil seem to have such a strong foothold in God's creation? How is it that conflict can divide families, races, nations and faiths?

We do not know why darkness falls upon us in some of the ways it does. What we do know is that there is a light that comes into our lives to bring healing and peace when we are most in need.

Please pray this prayer with me, and as we go through the seasons of Advent and Christmas, please carry some of this in your hearts.

God of light,

We do not know why darkness can weigh so heavily upon us. As we live with uncertainty and inner conflict, help us to find the peace that only you can give us. Touch us in our brokenness. Heal our wounds. Give us peace.

Please Lord, let our hearts be open to the light which you have brought into the world in Jesus Christ your only Son. Send us out to bring that light and hope

to others and to shine with the joy of your presence.

Amen

May God's peace and light touch you and yours in this season!

In Christ,

Pastor Steve



Dear WELCA Members,
We are in the Advent Season. Advent means waiting for Jesus to come. We ready our hearts and minds to prepare for his coming.

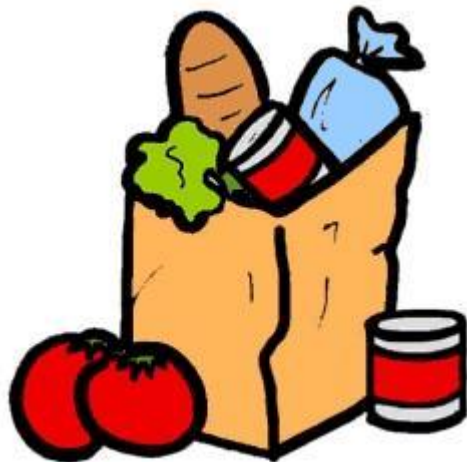
Christmas can be stressful if we let it be. We need to focus on what Christmas is all about. Not how many cookies we bake, or gifts we buy. Christmas is about a baby – a little baby born in a stable, the light of the world who died on a cross for our sins and gave us the gift of eternal life.

This month's lesson in our Gather magazine is about Jesus birth. Mary said "My soul magnifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant."

Wednesday evening, Dec. 2nd 7:00 p.m. will be our WELCA Christmas Celebration. Circle 3 will be serving and our special guest will be the Glory Deo Bells Choir, directed by Gloria Axelson.

This is my last newsletter as President of our WELCA. I would like to thank everyone for your help this past year. I couldn't have done this without the love and support from all of you. I thank you very much!

God's Blessings
Carol Zielinski
President WELCA



A Good Shepherd member applied for and has been granted by Thrivent a **Special Food Drive Project** that will benefit the Henning Area Food Shelf. Each month our congregation focuses on a Community project through our Coin Clanger collections. As we enter the Christmas season we are learning that the Henning Food Shelf is in *dire* need of food and donations to help support the many families that are requesting assistance. Last year the Food Shelf provided baskets for 52 families and this year the number is growing.

Our Project Window is very short – from December 1st through the 13th (the second Sunday in December) and we are hoping you will show your support by bringing in food products as soon as possible. We are also asking the 4 other area churches to join us in collecting during this time period. Once the project date is closed, volunteers will work with the Henning Food Shelf to package and distribute the baskets to the area families. Thrivent has also awarded a seed donation for the items that are not donated yet are needed to complete each food basket.

Please use this list as suggested items for your donations:

Pudding Jello Canned Fruits, Canned Vegetables, Potatoes, biscuits, rice Pasta, Butter, Margarine, Purchased meat.

MEN'S BREAKFAST – JoJo's

Thursday, December 3rd 9:00 AM

Come and join us for food, fellowship and Bible study.

Open to men of all ages.

SUNDAY SERVICE AT GOLDEN LIVING CENTER

Good Shepherd is responsible for Sunday Service at the Golden Living Center on Sunday December 13. What a great time to share! Please call Vivian at 548-4209 and say you will be ready. God Bless!



Lutheran Youth Organization

It's been a great fall so far in the OTC-LYO, and to wrap things up in December we have an awesome service event. Partnering with Harvest Pack Alexandria, the youth will work together on December 13th, at Good Shepherd in Henning, to pack 10,000 meals. These meals are used locally and globally to combat hunger, and we're excited to live out the call Jesus gives to us in Matthew 25:35-40 as a community. Don't forget; tell your friends and family to support our project by joining in **The Penny War** at any of the OTC-LYO Churches! 7-12th Graders, Sign up at church and see you on the 13th!

PENNY WAR

**"Put your pennies, in the jar of the pastor
you'd like to see wearing a silly wig, for a
worship service and support the youth
packing meals for people around the world"**

11/1	\$ 2705.00	94
11/8	\$ 992.00	46
11/15	\$ 1865.00	70
11/22	\$ 1792.00	111

*\$3900.00 is needed each week in order for us to stay on budget.



In Our Prayers

- Lloyd & Barb Amundson
- Beverly Bjerketvedt, Lorraine Olson
- Betsy Peterson, Evelyn Mitchell
- Jim Morse,
- Ken Moenck, Dorothy Nordgren
- Lou Ann Johnson

Serving in November

- Steve & Lisa Cordes Family
- Shawn & Anji Redfield Family
- Nancy Kaiser Family
- Mike & Pam Ranstad Family
- Barry & Laurie Shaw Family
- Duane & Judy Fraki
- Russ & Pam Moran Family
- Kelly Ellenson, Mallory Loock

Deacon: Gay Anderson

Offering Counters: Mike Ranstad
& Nancy O.



Poinsettias are available from Parker's Floral for the Christmas season:

- 6.5" Red or White \$15.00
- 8.5" Red or White \$25.00

Please let me know how many and what color you would like by December 4th. Make your check payable to Good Shepherd.

Nancy O.



Our Giving* in November	Attendance
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The Kountry Korner Kafe in Henning is offering “Meals on Wheels” everyday of the week. With Winter coming would you like a hot delicious meal delivered to your home in Henning or do you know of someone who would benefit from this service – It’s for seniors 60 years of age or older.

Call Kountry Korner Kafe 218-583-2031 with questions or to sign up!

The Glory Deo Bells Choir directed by Gloria Axelson will be the special guest for the WELCA Christmas Party. If you have not had the opportunity to hear these folks you are in for a treat! Please make an extra effort to attend the program and share in the celebration and fellowship as we begin this Christmas Season.