

THE SHEPHERD'S CALL

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
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Number 11

November 2023



Our mission is to build the Kingdom of God in Our Community

Dear Siblings in Christ,

As we approach the Thanksgiving holiday, it is a time for us to reflect on God's love and the countless blessings that we have received. In the midst of our busy lives, it is easy to overlook the profound importance of gratitude and the significance of sharing our blessings with those who are in need. It is incredibly important to remember what we are grateful for, acknowledging that some people do not have all that we have, and emphasizing the significance of generosity in our lives.

First and foremost, we recall the boundless love that God has for each one of us. It is through God's love that we find strength, hope, and purpose. As we gather with our loved ones this Thanksgiving, let us take a moment to reflect on the many ways in which God's love has touched our lives. In our thankfulness, we find a deeper connection to the divine and a reminder of the importance of love and compassion in our own actions. It's easy to forget that our whole lives are our Christian lives, we tend to leave our Christianity at church on Sunday morning, but our whole entire lives (work, play, and otherwise) are our Christian lives.

Thanksgiving is an opportunity to recognize the abundant blessings we have in our lives. Even in the face of challenges, there are countless reasons to be thankful. Our families, friends, health, and the resources we have been provided with are all gifts from God. Let us not forget that there are people in our community and around the world who do not have access to the same privileges. We must keep them in our thoughts and prayers and use this awareness as a catalyst for action.

Generosity is a cornerstone of our faith. It is through acts of kindness and giving that we demonstrate God's love to others. This Thanksgiving, let us commit ourselves to acts of generosity, no matter how small or large. We can extend a hand to those in need through donations, volunteering, or simply by offering a listening ear to someone who may be struggling. By practicing generosity, we not only share our blessings but also deepen our connection to our faith and our community.

W/ELCA Meeting – Tuesday, November 14th @ Noon (2nd Tuesday). All are welcome. Brown bag lunch followed by a short meeting, fun and games or program. This month our speaker will be Kyle Blankenbiller. Kyle will give a talk on “Stoneman Willie” (the Auman Funeral Home mummy). He will talk about his true identity and life, and how he came to stay at Auman’s all these years. Contact Sandra Oesterling for more information.

Thankoffering Sunday will be on November 12th. Please bring your cans and/or envelopes to submit your donations by November 5th. See either Sandra Oesterling or Barbara Greth.



Muhlenberg Churches Food Pantry

Thursday, November 16th

(3rd Thursday of each month)

Place your donated non-perishable items on white shelves in the gathering area. Your

the items will be in addition to the boxes of food from Helping Harvest. The number of families in need has been growing. We now give food to 130+ families each month.



(1st Wednesday each month) - Kid’s lunch and learn at Good Shepherd Preschool - 11:30 AM to 12:30 PM – Morning kids stay one hour later, and afternoon kids arrive one hour earlier.

Includes free lunch, Bible stories, games, crafts: a different adventure each month.

Let Becky know if you will be there for lunch. It’s a fun time to meet and get to know the families of the students in the school.

New phone number for Preschool and Kid’s Korner – 484-650-2931 – Do not call the old church office number any more.

NEW PHONE NUMBER TO CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE

Please call 610-926-5338 when you have a question or leave information for the Church Admin (JoAnne). This new phone number is a smart phone. You can text or call the office. So please do not dial the old line ending in 4201.

TABS – helping those with Cancer. Don't forget to save your aluminum tabs. They are greatly appreciated. We have the container on the Gathering Table for your donations.

Do you shop at Redner's? If you shop at Redner's, please bring your tapes in and give them to Harry Walters. We also are now accepting tapes from Redner's Quick Shop on Tuckerton Road. Your Redner's Reward Card also gives you discounts on gas purchases as Redner's. The "Save A Tape" program helps to sponsor W/ELCA projects.

Please see Harry Walters for any questions for info about the TABS or Redner's tapes. Sponsors Are Needed - Interested in sponsoring flowers or a bulletin on Sundays?

Sponsors needed – Altar flowers and/or the Bulletins. If you have a special remembrance or celebration, you can share that occasion with the congregation as you provide one or both of our items. Flowers \$10 per vase, two vases \$20. Bulletins \$15. Please see the sign-up sheets in the Narthex. Thank you!

Altar Guild Help Needed – Help needed for one Sunday a month to assist in getting things ready for the service. This is not a time-consuming task. Call the office for more information at 610-926-4201; or see Christine Weaver or Betty Nelson.

UPCOMING EVENTS



**Saturday, November 11th – All You Can Eat Breakfast
8:00 AM to 11:00 AM**

There will be a sign-up sheet for a general head count.

This event will also be open to the general public. Invite your family, friends, and neighbors. More information will be shared soon.

Saturday, December 9th – 5:30pm to 8:30pm – Muhlenberg Township Christmas Lights Tour – Good Shepherd is a stop on the tour for food donation drop-offs for the food pantry, and refreshments. There will also be a Tesla in the parking lot with entertainment of colorful lights and playing Christmas carols. See Helenna Lutz if you want to help in the kitchen with refreshments.

SUNDAY SERVICES SCHEDULE – MARK YOUR CALENDARS

All Saints Sunday – November 5th – Communion
Thankoffering Sunday (W/ELCA) – November 12th
Christ The King Sunday – November 19th – Communion
Advent 1 – November 26th – Communion
Advent 2 – December 3rd – Communion – following the service
 Congregational Meeting – Information hand-out on Budget, Council
 Preparation – Sanctuary decoration for Christmas, all welcome
Advent 3 – December 10th
Advent 4 – December 17th – after service
 Congregational Meeting, Voting on the Budget, Roster of Council
December 24th – no 11 AM service
December 24th – 4 PM Christmas Eve – Communion at Good Shepherd
 7 PM (and 10 PM) Christmas Eve – Communion at Calvary
December 31st – Service of Lessons and Carols
January 7th – Epiphany Sunday, Arrival of the Magi – Communion

*Eternal God,
The light of the minds that know you,
the life of the souls that love you,
the strength of the wills that serve you:
help us so to know you that we may truly love you,
so to love you that we may fully serve you,
whom to serve is perfect freedom.
Amen.*



Our Zoom broadcast has ended. Good Shepherd's service will be broadcast on Facebook. You can access it on Good Shepherd's Facebook page or on the website. You can watch it anytime. The broadcast is covered under Good Shepherd's Augsburg Fortress Liturgies License #SB121391 and the account with ONE LICENSE, License #739070-A.

How To Access the service on Facebook

- 1) Open your web browser.
- 2) Go to:
<https://www.facebook.com/calvarylutheranlaureldale>
- 3) Select "Reels"
- 4) Under "Videos", select the service you wish to view.

We are open minded, inclusive and affirming of all (including people who identify as LGBTQIA+).

NEWSLETTER INFORMATION:

Please send the information you want included in the church newsletter to Elaine Swavely. Her contact email is eswavely2009@gmail.com

To receive an email copy of the newsletter. Send a request by email to the church at gselc4201@gmail.com or put your information on a pew card. You can also call Elaine at 610-334-0339 with any questions or to give her your information.

Please contact the office if you cannot receive an email copy.