

Shepherd's *Voice*

Monthly Newsletter of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church - LCMS February 2023

Rev. James Lanning

This past Sunday, January 22, we celebrated Sanctity of Human Life Sunday (also known as Life Sunday), which was originally established to pray for the end of abortion. For many Christians, this issue is one of the biggest battles the Church faces in our time; it is such an affront to the way God made things to be, that it is only natural to be vehemently opposed to it. As Christians, this fight against abortion is one of the worthiest causes of this age; but as we pray for the end of abortion in this country, and around the world, we must remember that there is more to pray about on Life Sunday than just the end of abortion. Life Sunday, and being pro-life, are not just about being **against** abortion, but also about being **for** life. Therefore, it is important that we make it clear that the objective of Life Sunday is not just to oppose death, but to honor the sanctity of life, affirming life from the moment of conception to a person's last breath.

As Christians, we value life because we recognize that mankind was made in the image of God, and therefore has inherent value and dignity bestowed on us by God Himself; we therefore hate the killing of the unborn because we love the life of the child. With that said, and with the understanding that Life Sunday is not just a day to proclaim what we as Christians are against, I would like to withhold a lengthy polemic on abortion, and instead offer a series of prayers for life. Life is a great and wonderful gift from God, and therefore we pray that He would sustain and uphold life, even in the wake of the death that we brought upon the world through our sin. Please join me in prayer and reflection as I pray for life, even in the midst of situations of great pain, suffering, and death.

For those who suffer as a result of Abortion

Gracious heavenly Father, creator of all things, and author of life itself, when You created Man and Woman, You gave to them the special one-flesh union and the gift of having children. In Your love for us, You gave us the ability to share in Your work of creation, bearing and rearing children. But when mankind fell from grace, and was cursed for committing sin against You, You made a promise that all mankind would be redeemed by the birth of one special child, and that the enemy who tempted them to sin would be crushed by this promised child.

Continued

February Church Events

- 2.1 Adult Bible Study, 10 a.m.
- 2.7 Elders Meet, 7p.m.
- 2.8 Adult Bible Study, 10 a.m.
- 2.8 Shared Ministries Committee, 6:30pm @ Campus
- 2.9 Heritage Hall, 2 p.m.
- 2.11 Sweetheart Dinner, 5 p.m.
- 2.13 Women's Guild meet, 1p.m.
- 2.15 Adult Bible Study, 10 a.m.
- 2.22 Adult Bible Study, 10 a.m.
- 2.22 Ash Wednesday Service, 7 p.m.
- 2.25 Nerf & Nachos, 4:30 p.m.

Sunday Events

Adult Bible Study: 9:00 a.m. (led by Pastor Lanning)

Worship: 10:00 a.m.

After service Bible Study: "God's Not Dead – A Light in Darkness" (led by Gary Seider)

Children's Church is offered on Non-Communion Sundays, during the Sermon.

Church Updates

Be sure to check "Church Updates" for the latest church news and prayer requests, as well as serving and giving opportunities at Good Shepherd. Sign up and register at

www.churchupdates.org

Because this promise spelled the doom of Satan, he has struck out at You by convincing us to kill our children, whether infant sacrifice in ancient times, or abortion in modern times. Bring about the end of the slaughter of the most vulnerable; forgive those who have committed this act, and bring about repentance in their hearts. Console those who are victims of this horrible act, including the fathers who are given no choice or say in the matter at all. Comfort the women who get an abortion and regret what they have done; remind them that through Jesus Christ they are forgiven. Finally, Lord, we pray for those children that will never know the loving embrace of a mother's arms, those cut from life before they ever even took a breath; Keep them, O Lord, in Your loving arms, until You restore all things, and make all things new.

Lord in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

For those who suffer miscarriage

Lord, we know that not all deaths in the womb are intentional, and that sometimes you call your children to depart this life before they are even born. When a child is miscarried, the pain is great, and the burden is often born alone. Endless questions plague both the mother and father, who often wonder if it was their fault, or if they could have done something different. Trials of life like this often have no satisfying answer and leave those who experience them in great sadness and despair. Give them comfort, O Lord, as they grieve the loss of their child, and give them the hope that comes with the life of Christ Jesus.

Lord in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

For those who are infertile or perpetually single

Children are a great gift, O Lord, and we thank You for the joy they bring us, but for some, children will never be a possibility. For those who are married but are otherwise unable to conceive and have children, the inability to have children can be a constant pain and an overwhelming grief. Likewise, Lord, for those who would love to find a spouse and have children of their own, but never find someone, loneliness can be an unbearable burden. Bless the barren and the lonely; grant them the company and support of friends and loved ones who will remind them that they are loved and will point them to the life they have in Jesus Christ.

Lord in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

For the old, the terminally ill, and the dying

Lord, we know that all of us will face death eventually, unless You return within our lifetimes and set up Your Kingdom on Earth. Though we know that death is inevitable, we fear it, and hope to avoid it as long as we can. Death is truly the last great enemy that we will have to face, but thanks to Jesus Christ, Death does not have the final say over us. Even so, Lord, grant comfort to those who face death: the old, the terminally ill, and the dying. Give them the strength to face death with courage, having confidence in the One who died to give them life eternal.

Lord in Your mercy, hear our prayer. Amen.

Life is precious, and God loves the life that He has created, and so we should love the life He has created too, no matter how big or small, young or old. If you would like to know more about Life Sunday, and find resources to affirm life from the womb to the tomb, check Lutherans For Life: <https://lutheransforlife.org/>

Shepherd Supply

**Offering free household supplies to those in need.
Open Saturday 9-12 & Wednesdays by appointment only
contact Sheryl Bartels, (afternoons at 573-881-7879)**

PET Project

Pick up will be the first and third Mondays of the month. At this time, they will no longer be accepting empty pill bottles. Please bring in your clean empty cans and clean dry plastic milk jugs or other plastic jugs that have handles.

Please make sure your jugs are clean and dry inside.

Fun and Fellowship sponsored by the Sunday School



And



Join us for Nachos and Nerf gun fun on Saturday, **February 25th at 4:30pm**. We will provide foam bullets, please bring your own toy gun. Monetary donations for the nacho fixings would be greatly appreciated. Please make checks payable to: Good Shepherd Lutheran Church (Memo Nerf & Nachos). Cash donations need to be placed in an envelope and marked for Nerf & Nachos. Your donations can be put in the weekly offering plate or dropped in the wall safe outside of the secretary's office.

Sr. Youth Happenings



Sweetheart Dinner and Dance
February 11 at 5 pm
Reservations Required by calling 573-489-2816
Brisket, Potato, Vegetable,
Salad, Bread & Dessert
\$20 per person
Proceeds support Youth Activities

"Live Loved" is the theme for the Missouri District Youth Gathering

March 24-24, 2023 at Cross Pointe Retreat Center near Lake of the Ozarks.
Meet other Missouri LCMS youth during a weekend including fellowship, activities,
campfire, Bible study, and Christian Hip Hop artist FLAME!

Contact Alane Gronefeld 682-7125 for more information or to make a reservation.

FEBRUARY 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Adult Bible Study meets at 10am	2	3	4
5 9 am Adult Bible Study 10 am Worship w/Holy Communion	6	7 Elders meet, 7pm	8 Adult Bible Study meets at 10am Shared Ministries Committee, 6:30pm Meets at Campus Lutheran Church	9 Heritage Hall 2pm	10	11 SweetHeart Banquet 5:00pm in the fellowship Hall
12 9 am Adult Bible Study 10 am Worship Service	13 Women's Guild meet at 1pm	14 	15 Adult Bible Study meets at 10am	16	17	18
19 9 am Adult Bible Study 10 am Worship w/Holy Communion	20	21	22 Adult Bible Study meets at 10am Ash Wednesday Service 7pm	23	24	25 Nerf & Nachos 4:30pm in the Fellowship Hall
26 9 am Adult Bible Study 10 am Worship Service	27	28				



February Birthdays

Sherry Morse	2.6
Travis Banks	2.13
Brycelyn Stowers	2.18
Randy Simmons	2.25
Jim Gesling	2.26

February Anniversary

Kyle & Lisa Smith 2.1





**LUTHERAN HOUR
MINISTRIES**
www.lhm.org

February

February 5

"Your Time to Shine"

Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. John Nunes

Light is necessary for life; God's light, even more so.
(Matthew 5:14-16)

February 12

"Shine Like Stars"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

A social media star with a million followers can't possibly know all one million of them. However, there is one really famous Person with billions of followers Who knows--and loves--each one.
(1 Corinthians 3:6-7)

February 19

"Table Manners"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

(Exodus 24:11)

February 26

"It Begins with Who I Am"

Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Dean Nadasdy

Our identity defines us. Every decision we make, every action we take, and every temptation we face begins with who we are. In Christ we receive an identity uncompromised and secure.
(Matthew 4:1-11)

Broadcasting

Columbia, MO

KMCV 100.9 FM Sunday Mornings at 8:00am

Moberly, MO

KWIX 92.5 FM Sunday Afternoons at 1:30pm

February Calendar

- Feb. 5: Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany
Text: Matthew 5:13-20
- Feb. 12: Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany
Text: Matthew 5:21-37
- Feb. 19: The Transfiguration of Our Lord
Text: Matthew 17:1-9
- Feb. 26: First Sunday in Lent
Text: Matthew 4:1-19

Serving The Lord

Officiant: Pastor James Lanning

Board of Elders

Randy Simmons (573) 808-1497
Curt Nadler (573) 682-4541
Jeff Jaeger (573) 682-0902

Board of Trustees

Aaron Seider (573) 296-0429
Henry Rainey (573) 823-9777
Brenda Moss (573) 682-7117

Church Fellowship Hall and Church ballfield maintenance & scheduling

Katie Hoek (573) 933-0515
hoek.katelyn@gmail.com

2023 NEW OFFICERS

Newly elected officers to the Church Council are:
President – **Danny Nadler**; Elder – **Jeff Jaeger**;
Trustee – **Brenda Moss**; Recording Secretary – **Donna Hoek**; Financial Secretary – **Tracy Jaeger**.

THANK YOU

Those who have completed their terms of office:
President - **Eric Walters**; Elder – **Russell Stelzer**
Trustee – **John Briggs**; Recording Secretary- **Kim Rainey**; Financial Secretary - **Sherry Morse**.

Thank you all for your service in Christ Jesus on the Church Council.

FINANCIAL & ATTENDANCE

December 25

Attendance	37
Current	\$ 1,922.00
Building	\$ 180.00
Total	\$ 2,102.00

January 1

Attendance	52
Current	\$ 2,620.00
Building	\$ 180.00
Total	\$ 2,800.00

January 8

Attendance	41
Current	\$ 811.00
Building	\$ 170.00
Total	\$ 981.00

January 15

Attendance	68
Current	\$ 2,009.00
Building	\$ 230.00
Total	\$ 2239.00

January 22

Attendance	47
Current	\$ 982.00
Building	\$ 230.00
Total	\$ 1,212.00

January 29

Attendance	52
Current	\$
Building	\$
Total	\$ available next month

Current

10% of our current offerings are sent to Missouri District for missions. The remaining 90% is used for GSLC budget expenses.

Building

100% of money designated for building stays in our congregation for budget expenses.

December/January Deposits

12/21/22	Advent 4	\$71.00
12/24/22	Christmas Eve Service	\$659.00
1/1/23	Lutheran Witness	\$90.00
1/1/23	Senior Youth	\$50.00
1/8/23	Campus Shared Ministry	\$1,250.00
1/15/23	District Partnership Grant	\$1,000.00
1/15/23	Lutheran Witness	\$45.00
1/22/23	Rev. Tim Schulte Mission Project	\$30.00
1/22/23	Sr. Youth Sweetheart Dinner	\$40.00

Offering envelopes - please use your envelopes for your church giving as much as possible. It makes things much easier for our financial secretary when counting and recording member information. If you need envelopes just let Tracy know and she can get you some. Thank you

TREAT BOXES

The Women's Guild members will be packing treat boxes for college students and military personnel at our meeting on February 13. If you have a son or daughter in college or serving in the military we would like to include them.

Please send addresses to Judy Maseman jm46sec@gmail.com or text 573 682 4237.

If anyone would like to donate treats please bring them to church by Sunday, February 12.

We request nonperishable pre-packaged items rather than home made.



Campus Lutheran Church
Happenings



Save the date and plan to join us **Friday, February 3rd** for a fun evening of bunco (a mindless dice game that any age can play), fellowship and food. Bring a finger food if you like; not required. **Start gathering at 6pm, the games begin at 7pm.** There will be fabulous prizes for the winners (and a loser prize!)

Sunday School Happenings

Children's Church meets on non-communion Sundays. Children age 4 through 4th grade are welcome to go with Ann during the Sermon hymn for a short bible story and activity in a classroom. Children will return to their family in the sanctuary during the final hymn. If Ann and the children got busy with an activity, parents may come find them in the education wing after the service.

We also have a nursery room for children under age 4. The nursery has a connection to the sound system that allows parents/nursery volunteers to hear the sermon and prayers.

Parents are also most welcome to keep their children with them during the Divine Worship. We thank you for bringing them to church. Bless you!

“Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven” (Matt. 19:14).

The Lutheran Church--Missouri Synod website has a page dedicated to instruction of children about the elements in the Divine Service. <https://www.lcms.org/worship/kids-in-the-divine-service>

Sunday School: Currently we have three classes for children during the Sunday School hour at 9 a.m. Jacki can watch over little ones under age four in the Nursery area. Ann teaches younger children age 4 through 4th grade and Hannah teaches 5th grade and older. We both enjoy the preparation and time for delivery of God's Word in a way that is fun for children to learn.

Shared Ministry

The Shared Ministry Workgroup began meeting monthly in October 2022. The group is made up of Pastor and Hannah Lanning, Catherine Simmons, Aaron Seider, Curt Nadler, and a group from Campus Lutheran. Its purpose is to try to develop ways our two churches can work together in shared ministry through worship opportunities, bible studies and special events as outlined in the Memorandum of Understanding of Shared Ministry. At our January meeting, we approved the web page that was set up through campuslutheran.org/shared. A link to this page has been added to our Good Shepherd website. We discussed the need for, and ways to accommodate, the sharing of information regarding events and other opportunities to collaborate with each other. We also discussed various upcoming bible study opportunities and how they could be enhanced using zoom.



The home of Tim & Gayle Billings



The home of Betty Warden



The home of Bill & Judy Mahieu

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Carolers

Pastor, Hannah, and Katy Lanning, Kim, Colton, & Abby Rainey, Jacob, Leah, & Anna Cochran, Rafe & Abby Mechlin, Danny, Donna, & Katie Hoek. We all enjoyed caroling at the homes of our 6 shut-ins.



The home of Bill & Judy Mahieu

Prayers of the Church

Arland Stemme - mother of Alane Gronefeld, recovering from Shoulder Surgery; **Mark Ramsey**; **Calvin Stemme** – treatment for cancer; **Doreen Loeffler** – treatment for breast cancer; **Julia Rainey**; **Travis Barr** – taking cancer treatments; **Palmyra Dubbert**; **Mary Brechler**; **Jane St. John**; **Linda Benoit**; **Bryan Cornett**; **Michelle Kalbach** - sister of Jon Hoek; **Dennis & Jackie Nadler**; **Erica Cornett**; **Don Crump** – uncle of Jacki Stelzer; **Martha Blevins**; **Susan Harris**; **Wayne Nolan** – stepfather of Jeff Jaeger; **Michelle Smith** – daughter of Jane St John; **Arla Benskin** – daughter of Mary Brechler; **Missionaries - Pastor Tim Schulte and his wife Erin Schulte**.

Community: Father Mike Coleman; **Susan Prewitt** - diagnosed with breast cancer and is recovering from her recent surgery;

ARMED FORCES

Brandon and Jesse Lowery, U.S. Navy – brothers of Rachel Rojas (Robertson); **Donevin Leonard, U.S. Marine Corps** – grandson of Russell & Jacki Stelzer; **Rafe Mechlin, U.S. Marine Corps** – husband of Abby Mechlin, brother to Brittany Mechlin and Shelby Banks; **Chris Chism, U.S. Navy** – son of Vickie & Eric Chism; grandson of Barbara Fischer; **Brittany Macklin** – great-niece of Ernestine Ramsey; **Zachary Warden** – grandson of Betty Warden; **Community: Ray Finlay, U.S. Army**.



Our New Email: office@goodshepherdcentralia.org
Effective Now!



Pastor James Lanning

(512) 968-4587, Email:

pastorlanning@goodshepherdcentralia.org

Church Office- Starr Nadler 8:am-12:pm, M-F

(573) 682-3941

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