



News of the Flock

Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd

December 2022

From the Pastor's Desk:

Give me Jesus ELW 770

"Give me Jesus, give me Je-sus, you may have all the rest, give me Je-sus." This is a sticky song. Once you hear this hymn it plays in your mind over and over. This African-American spiritual has a simple but profound message especially in this time that we are living in.

I walk a lot and pray along the way. This hymn keeps playing in my mind as I walk. There are lots of voices in the world today that are shouting out what they want while missing the point of what we need. We need God. We need a Savior. God knows that and sent us the precious gift of Jesus to show us how much God loves all people.

It's likely that there will always be voices shouting out and trying to make things more complicated than they need to be. Will you join me, brothers and sisters in singing from morning to dark midnight cry and even to the time of death...

"Give me Jesus, give me Je-sus, you may have all the rest, give me Jes-us."

Our hope and peace rests secure when we trust the simple but profound message of love that we have in the precious gift of Jesus. It is what the season is all about. As the daylight hours get shorter and the dark nights get longer this month, our Advent wreath becomes brighter each week to help us remember what we are waiting for, the light of the world to come once again to brighten up even the darkest night.

As we go through this season of waiting and preparing for Jesus to come once again, let us take time to pause and reflect on this precious gift that was sent out of deep love for each person. Let us focus on that light of the world and how we may shine that light wherever we go. Let us prepare and make room for Jesus to come once again. One way that you can pause and focus on the Light of Jesus is to come to Holden Evening Prayer Service on Wednesday, December 7th at 7 pm. The season can be difficult for multiple reasons. Come, rest and hear beautiful comforting music.

Thank you to everyone who responded to the Stewardship drive with your pledge cards. This will help us to prepare and plan for next year and how much compensation we can offer a new pastor. Your commitment to God's mission of love at and through Good Shepherd is greatly appreciated!

We will vote on the budget for 2023 on Sunday, December 11 after the service.

+ with much love Pastor Bonnie Esther Lanyi



Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd

3099 Chapel Hill Road
Douglasville, GA 30135

770-949-9522

Mylcgs.org

Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m.

Pastor Bonnie Lanyi

pastor@mylcgs.org



Lutheran Church of the
Good Shepherd
Douglasville, GA



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December 2022

Our Council:

President	Joe Sneddon	sjsneddon@att.net
Vice President	Alison Bauch	bauchalison@yahoo.com
Fellowship	Johanna Welch	Skippiejo@bellsouth.net
Property	Brad Dennis	bdennis@fastenal.com
	Kevin Bauch	kbauch@bellsouth.net
	Diana Calhoun	dncalhoun@gmail.com
	Bob Schulhof	sealegal@aol.com
	Laurie Ritchie	dallritchie@gmail.com
	Pastor Bonnie	pastor@mylcs.org
Secretary*	Charles Craton	ccraton@comcast.net
Treasurer*	Steve Pulver	sjpulver46@gmail.com
** not a voting member		

Council Corner:

Your Council hopes everyone had a happy Thanksgiving with family and friends looking forward to Christmas and New Years. Good Shepherd has a busy month ahead starting with the Women's Christmas party and gift exchange on December 6 at 6 p.m. at O'Charley's restaurant. First Wednesday dinner will be on December 7 at 6:15pm. Your Council will be hosting this month. Sunday December 11 is the date for our annual budget meeting to adopt the 2023 budget. The meeting will be immediately after service and will be in the sanctuary. We need every voting member in attendance. Christmas Eve service will be at 7:00 p.m. We will not have a Christmas Sunday service.

Council President
Joe Sneddon

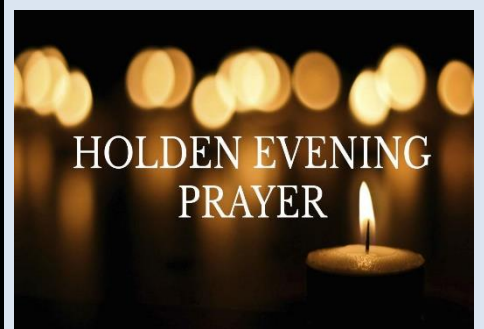
Operation Christmas:



On December 10th our church will be one of many in Douglas County to participate in the 8th annual Operation Christmas, which is the largest single outreach event in our community. This ministry provides new, unwrapped toys and gifts to children on free school meals, receiving WIC or medical services through the Health Department, enrolled in Project Head Start, or a student at Youth Villages. If you would like to donate, please place new, unwrapped toys in the collection box **by December 4th**. We are in the most in need of **\$20 or \$25 gift cards to Walmart or Target**. If you would like to help with the gift distribution, please let Leila know.



This month's
First-Wednesday Dinner
will be **December 7th** at
6:15 pm.



Join us at **7 p.m.**
December 7th for our
Advent Worship Service



to vote on our
2023 budget
December 11th
following the service
If you are a voting eligible
member, please plan to
attend.



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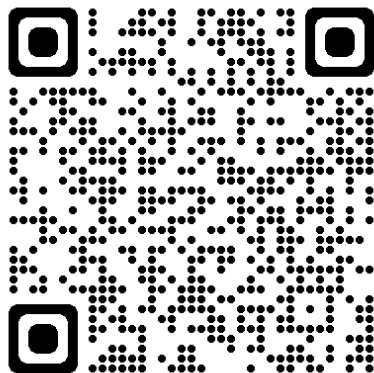
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Call Committee Congregational Survey

The Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd Call Committee would appreciate your feedback and ideas as we work to call a new pastor. Can you help us by completing a short survey? The survey has eight questions. Each question is optional. You can complete this online survey using a computer, smartphone, or tablet.

The survey is available from any web browser at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/3DVWMBH>.

Or, on a cell phone, you can also get to it using this QR Code:



If you have any difficulty with the survey, please reach out to:

Randy Stephens
email: randy.j.stephens@gmail.com
cell phone: 770.639.4477 (texting is fine).

Thank you again! If possible, please complete the survey by **Sunday, December 11.**

We look forward to hearing from you!

Sincerely,
Your Call Committee
Randy Stephens (Chair), Laura Austin, Heidi Dennis, Joanne Craton,
Don Larsen, Skip Welch



**Women's Christmas Party
and Gift Exchange**
Tuesday, Dec. 6th at 6 p.m.
at O' Charley's Restaurant
RSVP to Shirley Sneddon
sjsnedden@att.net



The Church Choir needs you!
Join us at for practice at
9 a.m. before the service.



**Fellowship and Card
Making after the service**
on December 18th



Daily Bread Needs:

- Hot Hands
- Fruit
- Towels

"If you love me, feed my sheep."
John 21:15-19



Our Christmas Eve service will be at 7:00 p.m. on December 24th. We will gather for a time of carols, lessons, communion, and candlelight!

We will not have a Christmas Day Sunday service.



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Daily Bread Ministry:

Matthew 25:40 "The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'

We currently have 19 gentlemen at Shinnah:

8 have jobs

5 receive a Social Security or disability check

3 applied for disability

1 has applied for Consular report of birth abroad. In Germany

1 resident moved into housing in Tennessee...Devin thanked us for giving him a place to stay when he had no other option. He left with his driver's license, birth certificate, social security card and food stamps. All the Glory to God.

1 has been accepted to receive food stamps

2 have appointments scheduled at community service board for assessments

Thank you Jesus, the moving of Shinnah to our new location was approved unanimously by all five of Douglas County board of commissioners. Their overwhelming support was unbelievable. They are going to assist us in moving all the pallets to the new location with the use of forklifts and tractors... to date we have 92 of the 300 pallets needed to complete our village. Using American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding, the county is going to install a road, install a water spigot and put in an electricity pole ...the project is not to exceed \$50,000. Wow!!!!

This is a huge project and will be asking for lots of volunteers.

Three of our residents of Shinnah now have vehicles. Giving thanks as I have seen such a difference in their demeanor since owning their own vehicle again.

Thank you, Sam and Susan Duke, for making your truck affordable for Tom ...what a blessing this is to him. he beams. He thanks us every time we see him for making this possible. We tell him no Tom, you made this possible by saving your money.

Steve McFall chose Michael to be his first employee to work for Dry Bones Valley, Inc ...today Michael has his own car.

In his own words how this happened:

"I don't know exactly what to say Mrs. Leila I kept my nose clean and kept my faith in Jesus work hard and good things happen. My Boss financed it to me I'm paying it off by working, plus I get paid to work so I work two days a week for a check and a third day towards my car every week".

Parrot also saved his money to purchase a vehicle.

Our needs this month is Hot hands coats and fruit please. Thank you for your continued prayers and support.

Leila



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Lutheranch 2nd Annual Christmas Open House:



Lutheranch is holding a Christmas Open House of Sunday, December 4th from 2-5 p.m. Events include free pony rides, crafts, games, appetizers and more. You can even get your photo made with Santa and a horse! This event is free, but please reserve a ticket to help them plan for food! Register at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/lutheranch-2nd-annual-christmas-open-house-tickets-466524486297>

Women's Christmas Party and Gift Exchange:

Our Annual Women's Christmas Party and Gift Exchange will be at 6 p.m. on December 6th at O'Charley's Restaurant. Let Shirley Sneddon know if you plan to attend at sjsneddon@att.net or 770-947-5262. Please bring a \$20-\$25 gift to exchange. (Something you would like to have.)



We will take a break from Bible Study during December. Bible Study will resume on January 8th.

Choir:

Our church choir has restarted! No special skills are needed! All ages and experience welcome! Please join us in making a joyful noise on to the Lord.



Fellowship and Card Making Event:

Join us after the service on December 18th for great snacks, fellowship, and card making to spread love and Christmas cheer to those we serve in our Daily Bread Ministry.



Poinsettias:

We will be selling poinsettias again this year to decorate the sanctuary for the Christmas season. Each plant will be \$15.00. You may purchase a poinsettia in honor of, or in memory of a loved one and the dedication will be listed in a special bulletin insert for the Christmas Eve service. You may take your plant(s) after the service or you may leave it/them to adorn the altar the 12 days of Christmas. Those plants left will later be taken to a nursing home to bring cheer. Look for order forms in your bulletins for the first few Sundays of December. Deadline for the orders is December 18th. Please make checks payable to Good Shepherd and mark them "Poinsettia."



West Georgia Ukulele Ensemble:



The West Georgia Ukulele Ensemble is now meeting at Good Shepherd at 11 AM on Saturday mornings. We will practice on December 3rd, 10th and 17th. All are welcome to join in or come and listen. On December 10th we are also performing a Christmas program at Ashbrook Village Senior Living in Villa Rica. Aloha... Don Larsen



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ELCA Good Gifts:

Looking for a gift for someone who has everything?

ELCA Good Gifts are a creative, meaningful way to support the ministries of the ELCA that mean the most to you and your loved ones. These gifts are real examples from projects currently supported through ELCA churchwide ministries: the ELCA Fund for Leaders, ELCA Global Church Sponsorship, ELCA New Congregations, ELCA Vision for Mission, ELCA World Hunger, Disability Ministries and Lutheran Disaster Response. Each of these programs is a long-term, partnership-based ministry that focus on the needs identified by local congregations and global companion churches and their communities.

How It Works



1. CHOOSE YOUR GIFT

Give the gifts that mean the most to you, or choose gifts to give in honor of someone special.



2. GET A CARD

Mail, print or email a card to share the news of your gift with friends and loved ones.



3. MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Your gifts support the ministries of the ELCA in nearly 80 countries around the world.

Find the ELCA Good Gifts Catalogue here:

https://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/ELCA_Good_Gifts_Order_Form.pdf?_ga=2.254505728.925912311.1669681832-1560243721.1585090396

Our December Birthdays and Anniversaries:

Happy Birthday

- | | | | |
|------|-------------------|-------|-------------------|
| 12/1 | Maddie Holzhauser | 12/9 | Stephen Austin |
| 12/3 | Cristina Craton | 12/18 | Justin Stephenson |
| 12/5 | Bradlee Ray | 12/21 | Kristy Habib |
| 12/6 | Claire Craton | 12/28 | Chad Waters |
| 12/6 | Laurie Ritchie | 12/31 | John Lorenz |



Happy Anniversary

- | | |
|-------|--------------------------|
| 12/17 | Laura and Stephen Austin |
| 12/22 | Theresa and Steve Pulver |

