

The Shepherd's Staff

Monthly Newsletter of

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church at Swan's Trail

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www.swanstrail.org

5511 64th Street SE, Snohomish WA 98290

Church Phone 425-334-1220

MARCH 2023

FROM DEACON LIZ

Lenten Blessings to YOU, dear Good Shepherd community!

This lent we are moving through the gift of a story called "Tales of the Pointless People" by Pastor Dan Erlander. These stories are meant to remind us of God's will for us to have joy filled lives that are bent in service to one another, and not competition. That the goodness of God comes to us in relationship and play and compassion. Pastor Sarah Are wrote a poem for the season of Lent that is beautifully similar in theme, and I hope you find God's message to you in reading it this month!

"Invited"

by Pastor Sarah Are

I like to imagine that each year,
God invites me to a party.
God drops me a note that says,
"No gifts, casual dress. Come just as you are."

I like to imagine that I am brave enough to go.
I like to imagine that I decide that I am worth it. This was no pity invite,
There is no obligatory postage.
God wants me there.

So I get myself together,
Smudged glasses, sensitive ego, wrinkled shirt, and all.
I ring the doorbell a few minutes late on account of the fact that
I lost my keys twice trying to get out the door,
And I almost turn back to hide in my car,
Afraid that I might embarrass myself over appetizers or small talk. But then God answers the door,
And God says, "You're here!"
And I smile, because I am.

And with every step past that threshold,
I know that God is cheering me on.
It's the pride of a parent watching their child take their first step. If I freeze, God is not disappointed.
If I fall, God is not mad.
But if I trust the invitation,
If I move closer,
I know, God celebrates.

Friends, you've got mail.
It's an invitation to dust off your shoes,
To go deeper,
To trust that you're worth it,
To lose your keys and your faith,
And then to find them both, along with your worth. You are invited.
We are invited
Again and again and again.
This invitation is for you.

Contact information for Deacon Liz Colver is:

Email: deacon.liz.colver@gmail.com

Cell phone: 206-391-2117

Dcn. Liz will check emails on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday with Mondays and Fridays off (except for emergencies - call or text at any time)

Prayer Requests

**Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus
and for all people according to their needs:**

*Pr. Erik, the Transition Team, the Call Committee, the Council, Deacon Liz and our own Congregation
as we work through the transition and call process*

Dell and Renee Deierling on the loss of Renee's mother, Flo Craven

Pat Veale on the loss of her brother

The Kloes Family the loss of Donna Kloes

The McCutchan family on the loss of Cheryl's mother, Mur Jensen

Jane Melnyk and family on the loss of her brother, Terry

For health concerns:

Cathy Karlsen's son, Rob, who has a serious infection

Al Moen

Lisa Robinson's Sister-in-law, Debbie, as she recovers from auto accident

Bob Amberson

Richard McCutchan's sister

Heidi Ferria, Pat Heifort's daughter

Bo Henderson

For all others who are in need of healing and wholeness,

For peace all around the world, especially in Ukraine

For our Congregational Leaders and for all people according to their needs.

**Into your hands, Oh, Lord, we commend all for whom we pray,
trusting in your mercy through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME

Remember that Daylight Savings time begins on March 12 so set your clocks ahead one hour before you go to bed on March 11.

CONGREGATIONAL SPECIAL MEETING

Please plan if possible to attend Worship on March 19. We will be installing our Call Committee but need direction from the Congregation on a couple of decisions.

THANK YOU TO

Everyone who helped with clearing the lower level large room to prepare for the lease:

Karla and Dean Kloes, Marilyn and Al Errey, Joanie Gilbert, Meghan and Lukas Blair, Pat Veale, Pat Pehling, Doug Garland, Richard McCutchan, Lori and Meade Fox, Dave and Lori Pehling, Joy Vaughn and Mary Hendrickson

Also, Jack Walkley loaned a large dump trailer, gave us knives to cut carpet AND had the trailer hauled away AND paid the dump fee

Lori and Meade Fox loaned a large box truck to make the trip to donate items to charity

Jeff Thoreson evaluated the piano and then loaned a piano dolly in order to transfer it to the Fellowship Hall

BENEVOLENCE COMMITTEE – Rick Homme

The Fund began the year with \$24,090 available for distribution. The Committee met on February 5th and made the following awards:

St. John's Episcopal Church, Snohomish	850 (to assist with remodeling their kitchen which is heavily used for Community Kitchen)
Snohomish Food Bank	600
Maltby Food Bank	600
Marysville Community Food Bank	600
Everett Recovery Café	600
Interfaith Association of NW WA	900
Lutheran World Relief	1,000
Local individual for food and rent	300
Total Q1	\$5,450

New money available this year was a little less than 60% of what was available last year and many of the contributions to repeat recipients reflect that reduction

The Committee will meet next on April 2nd.

MINISTRY OF COMMUNITY SERVICE – Marilyn Errey

Evelyn Agostinelli has graciously offered to collect warm coats and jackets for either or both Matthew House in Monroe and Everett Gospel Mission Men and Women's Shelter.

Matthew House serves families of those incarcerated at the reformatory and some others who are struggling.

The Everett Gospel Mission serves homeless men and the Shelter for Abused Women and Children.

Ongoing needs are listed below.

Matthew House: clean and gently used clothing for women; socks and underwear.

Everett Gospel Mission: clean and gently used clothing for both men and women; also socks and underwear (please, no suits or dress clothes)

If you are unsure what place you want your contributions to go, Evelyn will sort them for distribution. Thank you, Evelyn!

Thank you for donations to the food boxes in the narthex. Donations are continuously brought to the Snohomish Food Bank for distribution. Your generosity is appreciated by those in need.

MINISTRY OF GIFTS – Dell Deierling

THANK YOU

Thank you to all who are faithful in their offerings and support of Good Shepherd in 2023. Your generosity of time, talents, and offerings are greatly needed and very much appreciated!

GIVING OPTIONS

- Contributing during our weekly service
- Mailing checks to: Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 5511 64th Street S.E., Snohomish, WA 98290
- Utilizing your bank's bill pay option (Check with your bank or your on-line banking website)
- Using Tithe.ly donate link on our website, <https://www.swanstrail.org>

MINISTRY OF YOUTH & ADULT FELLOWSHIP – Karla Kloes

On Sunday, March 12th at 4:00 PM the youth and all friends and family of Good Shepherd are invited to attend an Everett Silvertips game. If you are interested in attending, please contact Dean Kloes on 360-563-0520.

We have been enjoying great fellowship time after church. We appreciate all the people who sign up and provide treats and clean up. Thank you again for helping share the work. Please check out the sign-up sheet for more opportunities.

We will continue to have soup supper on Wednesday nights before Lent services. Please bring soup to share and there will be a sign-up sheet in the fellowship hall for bread and dessert.

We will be having an Easter brunch at 9:15 a.m. on Easter Sunday before church. Terry Danner has volunteered to make pancakes and ham and there will be a sign-up sheet for potluck to provide other food (fruit, sweet rolls, egg dishes, etc.) We look forward to seeing you there. Join us in celebrating Christ's resurrection.

If anyone would like to head up a fellowship event or has other ideas, please let me know.

MINISTRY OF CHRISTIAN LEARNING – Lisa Robinson(Dean Kloes)

Sunday School for the youth of our church continues each Sunday beginning at 9:45 am

The March **Women's Monthly Bible Study** will be held on Friday, March 17th at 10:00 am in the Anderson Chapel.

Also, anyone is invited to attend the weekly **Sunday evening Bible Study** at 7:00 pm. For more information, contact Dean Kloes

MINISTRY OF GOD'S HOUSE – Chad Masche

Projects in the works:

- Several of the heating units throughout the building will be examined by a heating/furnace service in the next couple of weeks. Recently a wall-heating unit was developing soot along the vent on the outside wall. There are also a couple of space heater units that are not working properly. Lastly, the main furnace located under the sanctuary will be serviced as well for routine maintenance.
- The fences located along the East and West boundary lines will be a point of discussion and planning between Good Shepherd Church and The Academy of Snohomish. This could be a possible joint effort to remedy the existing problems of integrity and strength regarding the fence.
- We will be replacing a valve unit within the disability-access stall in the women's bathroom. This has been an ongoing issue and will be remedied during the month of March. Thanks for your patience.

Projects completed:

- The roof flashing and gutters were repaired in the last couple of months to prevent further leaking above the stairway along the south wall.
- Recently the Lease Committee led major efforts in the downstairs area directly below the sanctuary (the previous youth room). This area was entirely cleared of all furniture and other miscellaneous items by this very committed group of volunteers from the congregation. This effort was to make sure the space is ready for The Academy of Snohomish to begin remodeling the space in March of this year. In addition, Dean Kloes led the effort to remove and address the mold issue that existed in this space. THANKS to ALL those that contributed to the huge effort of preparing this space.

Just a couple of notes:

Additional Projects are continuously being recognized, discussed, and completed. If you see something in need of repair, a safety issue, or have an idea for improvements in, and around, the church, please let me know so they can be addressed.

MINISTRY OF WORSHIP - Donna Garland

Can you believe it? It's the Lenten season already. We celebrated Ash Wednesday with a soup dinner and service. We had 18 people attend the dinner, which included 6 different soups, bread and butter, cupcakes and cookies. During the Lenten season we are using the Holden Evening Prayer service by Marty Haugen. If you haven't experienced this musical setting, it includes images of light shining through the darkness and prayers rising like incense to heaven. With only 18 people, we gathered at the front of the church in a semi-circle and it was nice to sit close to your neighbor.

In next month's newsletter we will be providing details regarding Holy Week. We are currently planning with Holy Cross Lutheran Church to split the Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services between the churches. Also, if you would like to donate a Lily (or more) for Easter, the form is included below and will also be available in the Narthex.

I am still looking for one or two people that may be available to help set up and clean up after communion, fill candles, and change paraments to match the season. It doesn't take long but needs to be done the Friday or Saturday (or early Sunday morning if you are an early riser) prior to Sunday service. Let me know if you are willing to take a week or two.

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SPECIAL OCCASIONS IN OUR CONGREGATION:

(If we don't have your family's special dates, please write them down and

pass it along to Pat Pehling - we'd like to include everyone!)

BIRTHDAYS

March 1 Pat Davis
2 Marge Griffiths
4 Ashley Holten
9 Ron Walther
12 Jane Melnyk
13 Cormac Fox, Aiden Flynn
16 Chris Reed
17 Jenny Toutonghi, Brian Melnyk
18 Cathy Karlsen
20 Jeff Day
21 Eli Fox
22 Mark Martina
29 Leif Flynn

ANNIVERSARIES

18 - Paul & Jenny Toutonghi
29 - Alton & Nancy Moen
29 – Brian & Jane Melnyk

EASTER LILIES FOR THE SANCTUARY

I will donate _____ Lilies at \$10 each to decorate the Sanctuary for Easter

In Memory of _____

In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____

Please put in Offering Plates or mail form and check for \$10 each to
5511 64th ST SE, Snohomish WA 98290

Notice of donations will be in the April Newsletter

Donated by _____

◀ Feb 2023

March 2023

Apr 2023 ▶

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Soup/Bread Dinner 6pm Lenten Service 7pm	2	3 Trauma Group 6pm	4
5 Choir Rehearsal 9:30am Sunday School 9:45am Worship 10:30am Bible Study 7pm	6 4-H Club Meeting 6- 9pm	7	8 Soup/Bread Dinner 6pm Lenten Service 7pm	9 Pilchuck Camera Club	10	11
12 Choir Rehearsal 9:30am Sunday School 9:45am Worship 10:30am Hockey Game Bible Study 7pm	13	14	15 Soup/Bread Dinner 6pm Lenten Service 7pm Project Linus	16 BZB Quilters	17 Women's Monthly Bible Study 10am	18
19 Choir Rehearsal 9:30am Sunday School 9:45am Worship 10:30am Congregational Meeting Bible Study 7pm	20	21	22 Soup/Bread Dinner 6pm Lenten Service 7pm Project Linus	23 BZB Quilters	24 Project Linus	25 Project Linus
26 Choir Rehearsal 9:30am Sunday School 9:45am Worship 10:30am Bible Study 7pm	27	28	29 Soup/Bread Dinner 6pm Lenten Service 7pm	30	31	April 9 – Easter Breakfast