

The Shepherd's Staff

Monthly Newsletter of

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church at Swan's Trail
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5511 64th Street SE, Snohomish WA 98290

Church Phone 425-334-1220

JANUARY 2023

FROM DEACON LIZ

Happy New Year!

While our church liturgical calendar resets the first Sunday in Advent, we still have some newness and some 'fresh start energy' available come Epiphany and the beginning of the calendar year as well! As you will learn as you participate in worship on Epiphany Sunday, there are Stars that we, too, may be experiencing a call to follow. Being a disciple or follower of Jesus doesn't only mean reading the Word, praying, and worshipping regularly. It also means being attentive to what's happening around us. To be alert to that which the Spirit may be using to nudge us toward something new, different, exciting, challenging, or even terrifying!

The ways we all experience the call toward God's way of mutuality and relationship looks different for each of us. A writer once reminded me that "comparison is the thief of joy" and what tugs at my heart might not be what tugs at yours this new year – but we can work together in the ways we encourage and participate in illuminating that call for one another.

As we enter the season of Epiphany, may you find stars that guide you toward your next most faithful step!

Peace and all good, Deacon Liz

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)

THANK YOU TO:

- Those who donated food and monetary gifts for the Food Bank and holiday baskets – it was very much appreciated!
- All who donated Christmas gifts for our adopted families!
- Michele Coady for the special music – always appreciated when she adds her beautiful flute!
- All the special music on Christmas Eve – Terry Danner on his harmonica, Michele Coady on the flute and Greta Mache on her violin!
- Marilyn Errey, Michele Coady and Bonnie Thoreson for continuing to provide our weekly worship bulletin – it is a LOT of work.
- Karla Kloes for her on-going efforts with our potential lease of our lower level for a Christian School!
- The Sunday School for their Christmas Program that was presented during Worship last month. Also to Dean Kloes for directing, Meagan Blair and Joanie Gilbert for costumes, Bonnie Thoreson for accompaniment and the parents for all their support

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 Council, Deacon Liz and our own Congregation as we work
through the transition process*

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:

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.**

Prayer requests or changes should be submitted to swanstrail@outlook.com 425-334-1220

ANNUAL MEETING

Our *Congregation's Annual Meeting* is on Sunday, January 29, following Worship. Please put this date on your schedule and plan to attend. It is important for us all to take part in planning for our future and we must have a quorum to conduct business. The Council is preparing the 2023 budget, the nominating committee is contacting members to serve as committee chairs and officers, and committee chairs are preparing their reports for 2022.

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

Reminder to Council members of the meeting on Sunday, January 8, following Worship.. Main topic is the budget preparation.

TRANSITION TEAM REPORT – Donna Garland

The Transition team is in hiatus for a couple of weeks while we wait for 2023 budget information from the church council. After that meeting, the team will input the information into the Ministry Site Profile, the call committee will be elected at the annual congregational meeting, and then things should get interesting. The Transition team will still be available to assist the call committee as needed, but our work is substantially complete.

A reminder that if you have any suggestions or concerns about the MSP, please contact, Donna Garland or any Transition Team member (Karla Kloes, Bonnie Thoreson, Pat Veale, Rick Homme or even Pastor Erik when he is here January 15th).

MINISTRY OF COMMUNITY SERVICE – Marilyn Errey

Thank you for your generosity to those in need! In December, your gifts were delivered to Riverview Elementary for 3 families (11 children total). Each family also received a Fred Meyer Gift Card in the amount of \$150.

The Reverse Advent Calendar food donations are being delivered this week to the Snohomish Food Bank by Doug and Donna Garland.

Please continue to bring donations throughout the months ahead and place them in the boxes against the back wall of the Narthex.

As we begin this new year of transition, please provide me with any suggestions for ways in which Good Shepherd may help build community throughout the year. Thank you again and always for your continued generosity!

MINISTRY OF GIFTS – Dell Deierling

THANK YOU!

Thank you to all who are faithful in their offerings and support of Good Shepherd. Your generosity of time, talents, and offerings are greatly needed and very much appreciated! Together we succeeded in supporting the needs of our ministry in 2022. We fell short of meeting our budgeted expenses that were based on having a called pastor for part of the year. However, we met our actual expenses and managed to build our savings a bit.

LOOKING AHEAD

As we plan for 2023 and the successful calling of a new pastor, our financial needs may be \$17,000 higher (possibly more) than our current budget. The 2023 budget will be approved at our Annual Meeting on January 29. The February newsletter gifts report will reflect the new budget.

Together we can and will succeed in achieving our greater needs for our ministry as we prepare for the calling of a permanent pastor.

MINISTRY OF WORSHIP – Donna Garland

Christmas is over and New Years has come and gone. Our church year began last November with Advent. January begins the season of Epiphany where Lutherans think about three major events when Jesus's identity and mission were made known to all people (including us).

First, we celebrate the arrival of the Magi offering gifts to the young Jesus. Next, we celebrate the baptism of the adult Jesus. On the last Sunday in Epiphany, we will celebrate the Transfiguration of our Lord. The season of Epiphany ends the day before Ash Wednesday.

We continue to worship together, in person, with Deacon Liz presiding. I look forward to her insights during this Epiphany season and I hope you do too.

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.

MINISTRY OF YOUTH AND ADULT EDUCATION – Dean Kloes

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

The January women's monthly bible study will be held on Friday, January 20th at 10:00 AM in the Anderson Chapel.

Also, each Sunday evening at 6:00 PM, bible study continues at the Barstad home where the adult group is currently studying a book titled *The Faith We Hold*.

MINISTRY OF ADULT & YOUTH FELLOWSHIP – Karla Kloes

Thank you all for your continued hospitality for providing treats for fellowship time after church. Many volunteers decrease the load for everyone. If you have not signed up before, maybe you could try something different in the new year. It doesn't have to be a lot. Remember you could team up with a friend if you wanted. There are still openings in January.

Thank you to those who took my spot during December. I really appreciate you. I also wanted to thank everyone for supporting our family with love, food and cards during this time. We are blessed by your kindness, prayers and compassion.

FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

The next **Leisure Time Potluck** hosted by Pat Veale is on Tuesday, January 17 at 12 noon at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church. Bring a dish to share. This is for all ages. If you have extra time on your hands and don't know what to do with it, come. Bring your photos and stories, what trips you have been on or want to share what you do. There is no formal agenda.. Bring a friend or neighbor with you if you like. Maybe some old friends of Good Shepherd would like to get reacquainted.

On Saturday, January 28th the youth and all friends and family of Good Shepherd are invited to go slide on **inner tubes at the Snoqualmie Tubing Center**. If you are interested in attending, please contact Dean or Karla Kloes on or before January 10th.

MINISTRY OF GOD'S HOUSE – Chad Masche

Outdoor Work Parties:

Our monthly gardening work parties came to an end in November and will pick back up in Spring 2023. As always, THANKS for all those who volunteered their time and talents throughout the 2022 year, without you maintaining our wonderful building and grounds would be impossible.

Projects in the works:

- Recently the downstairs area directly below the sanctuary (the previous youth room/classroom) was tested for the presence of mold. This was necessary due to the future possible renting of this space by The Academy. There was mold present in the test results conducted by the mold remediation company that we contracted to do the initial tests. At this moment the mold is not active and does not pose any immediate health threat. With that said, the mold that is present will need to be removed and the affected areas cleaned. The next steps will be discussed at the upcoming church council meeting on 1/8/23.
- The fence along the west side of the church grounds has recently suffered several panels to fall over following a couple of the high-wind storms that moved through the area. We will be looking to repair the fallen panels in the very near future.
- There is a small leak along the roof flashing where the sanctuary roof and the fellowship hall roof come together. At this point in the roof, located just above the stairway in the middle hallway, there have been several leaks of dirty water from the roof. This is due to sudden pooling of water that occurred during some

recent weather, including snow melt along with heavy sustained rain. We will be repairing the area as soon as possible.

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.

DID YOU KNOW? That Good Shepherd hosts:

- A 4-H Horse Club that meets monthly
- Project Linus (provides Quilts to children and adults in difficult circumstances)
- Buzy Bees Quilting Club
- Pilchuck Camera Club
- Trauma Group
- Snohomish County 4-H Equine Educational Contests (6 of them a year!)

We can feel good about providing a lovely space for our community!

INVITATION

You are invited to attend a "Palestinian" style lunch on Sunday January 15 at noon at Christ the King Lutheran 1305 Pine. Neal and Anita Huntley and Daren and Joann Barstad will present pictures and information from their October trip to Palestine. Information will also be given on a study beginning on Sunday evening January 22 based on the book "Can We Talk About Israel? A guide for the Curious, Confused, and Conflicted." Anyone who is interested is welcome.

SPECIAL OCCASIONS IN OUR CONGREGATION:

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

January	1	Nicolas Smith
	5	Bruce Martina
	9	Noah Kloes
	10	Jennifer Ess
	11	Colin Cole
	17	Cheryl McCutchan and Lori Kloes
	19	Pat Veale
	20	Kristin Flynn
	25	Gail Blaske
	26	Megan Olson
	29	Eric Olson

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY- None for January!

Thank you for Bo Henderson's many cards!

I'd like to thank everyone who sent Bo birthday & Christmas wishes.



You made him feel very special and your kindness fills his days.

Happy New Year to all!

Robin ❤️

January 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Worship 10:30am Lessons & Carols	2	3	4	5	6 Trauma Group 6pm	7 Memorial Service for Donna Kloes 2pm
8 Choir Rehearsal 9:30am Sunday School 9:45am Worship 10:30am Church Council Meeting Bible Study 6pm	9 4-H Club Meeting 6-9pm	10	11	12 Pilchuck Camera Club 5:30pm	13 4-H Contest 6-9pm	14 Jane Melnyk sponsored Baby Shower 12-5
15 Choir Rehearsal 9:30am Sunday School 9:45am Worship 10:30am Bible Study 6pm	16 Project Linus 10-3	17 Leisure Time Potluck Noon	18	19 BuzyBee Quilters	20 Women's Bible Study 10am 4-H Contest 5-9pm	21
22 Choir Rehearsal 9:30am Sunday School 9:45am Worship 10:30am Bible Study 6pm	23	24	25	26 BuzyBee Quilters	27 Project Linus 10am-10pm	28 Youth Event Project Linus 10am-10pm
29 Choir Rehearsal 9:30am Sunday School 9:45am Worship 10:30am Annual Meeting 11:45am Bible Study 6pm	30	31				

