

JANUARY 3 & 4, 2014

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

Email: goodshepherd.gslc@gmail.com

Website: goodshepherdkettering.com

901 East Stroop Road

Kettering, OH 45429 ~ 937-298-0136

fax ~ 937-299-1170

GSLC ANNOUNCEMENTS & HAPPENINGS

Welcome

We welcome all of our visitors... as guests. We ask that you complete a gold visitor card located in the pew rack and ushers will collect them. Thank you for joining us today.

We ask our members...

to complete a green card and the ushers will them pick up.

Nursery available...

downstairs, for children who need an alternate place during the service. See an usher for assistance.

Prayer Stations...

people are available in the front of the sanctuary after each service on Saturday and Sunday. Someone is available to share a prayer with you before you leave.

Prayer and Care...

Each week we gather special prayer requests to share joys and concerns of those in need. Please enter your prayer request in the notebook in the narthex and our prayer team will remember to pray for you throughout the week.

Holy Communion... Everyone is welcome. Please see our Communion Statement in each worship bulletin.

Lectionary Thoughts

The Mystery of the Incarnation

By Delmer Chilton - from livinglutheran.com

In 1675, a fire destroyed most of London. Therefore, many of London's most impressive, beautiful and famous buildings were built between 1675 and 1725. In 1684 Sir Christopher Wren laid the cornerstone for what would be his greatest building, St. Paul's Cathedral.

It took 35 years to complete. When it was finished, Queen Anne took a tour of the building. Wren waited breathlessly to see what she would say. At the end of a thorough tour, the queen pronounced her verdict. "It's awful; it's amusing; it's artificial."

What? "It's awful; it's amusing; it's artificial?" Wren must have been devastated, we think. But he wasn't. He was delighted. In those days, "awful" meant, "full of awe, awe inspiring, awesome;" amusing meant, "amazing, unbelievable;" and artificial meant "artistic." What sounded to us like a devastating critique was, to Wren's ears, the highest praise.

Today's Gospel lesson says that "The Word became flesh and lived among us." I am wondering how we make sense of this sentence in the modern world. Perhaps it is as foreign to our ears and our understanding as the queen's praise of Wren's cathedral.

It must be admitted that the incarnation, God's act of becoming human, has been difficult to comprehend and accept in any time and any place, not just the West in the 21st century. Martin Luther said, "The mystery of humanity of Christ, that he sunk himself into our flesh, is beyond all human understanding." It is not a truth that can be explained by science or logic; it can only be proclaimed as revealed truth. But once it has been proclaimed, it can be explored so as to better understand the difference this mystery makes in our lives.

(continued on page 4)

Worship Ministry Schedule

This Week - January 4

Acolytes

8:30 am Aidan Cahill
11:00 am Tyler Grove

Assistant Minister

8:30 am Becky Cook

Communion Assistants

8:30 am Paula Bennett Janet Grieshop
Gerry & Donna Harte
11:00 am Jennifer Kellstrom

Lectors

8:30 am Don Bennett
11:00 am Suzanne Bohardt

Ushers

8:30 am Del Herbeck Bob & Diane Miller
Connie Dishon Chris Connelly
11:00 am Sandy Rosholt Jennifer Kellstrom

Sound Technician

Sam/Don Bennett

Altar Guild

Sat	Setup	
Sat/Sun	8:30 Reset	Anna Lee Sawdey & Shirley Osburn
Sun	11:00 Reset	Jennifer Kellstrom
Sun	Putaway	Duane Tackis & Ed Thieman

Coffee Fellowship

8:30 am Ann Chuprun
11:00 am

Greeters

8:30 am Don & Janet Grieshop
11:00 am Sandy Rosholt

Flowers/Visitation

GINNY HERBECK

Next Week - January 11

Acolytes

8:30 am Kelly Hartmann
11:00 am Kayla Grove

Assistant Minister

8:30 am Roger Bauser

Communion Assistants

8:30 am Ginny & Del Herbeck
Bob & Diane Miller
11:00 am Ed Thieman

Lectors

8:30 am Roger Hartmann
11:00 am Mary Pierce

Ushers

8:30 am	Robert Spitz	Dick Hartmann
	George Frankenfeld	Les Riehl
	Wayne Weyhrauch	Janet Grieshop
11:00 am	Brenda Thieman	Cindy Grove

Sound Technician

Sam/Don Bennett

Altar Guild

Sat	Setup	Michele Weyhrauch
Sat/Sun	8:30 Reset	Anna Lee Sawdey & Shirley Osburn
Sun	11:00 Reset	Jennifer Kellstrom
Sun	Putaway	Duane Tackis & Ed Thieman

Coffee Fellowship

8:30 am Bill & Ardith Hargrave
11:00 am

Greeters

8:30 am Bill & Ardith Hargrave
11:00 am Jennifer Kellstrom

Flowers/Visitation

ROBIN SESSLER

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Staff ~ 298-0136

Pastor Jamie Vannoy - Senior Pastor - Ext. 101

Don Bennett - Director - Youth and Family Ministry - Ext. 105

Mark Shoemaker - Music Director - Ext. 106

Linda Newcomer - Office Manager - Ext. 100

Judy Washburn - Office Assistant - Ext. 100

Rich & Jennifer Kellstrom - Custodians (call office)

Wayne Weyhrauch - Council President - 938-1455

luv2preach@gmail.com

donbennett.gslc@gmail.com

music@goodshepherdkettering.com

gslchurch@woh.rr.com

gslchurch@woh.rr.com

mweyhrauch@woh.rr.com

If you would like to sign up to volunteer on the Worship Ministry Schedule contact the church office.

Calendar of Events

Sunday January 4

Food Pantry Sunday

- 8:30 am Traditional Worship Service
- 11:00 am Contemporary Worship

Monday January 5

Bob Evans Fundraiser-LYC

- 9:30 am Quilting Group
- 2:30 pm Homework Club
- 6:30 pm Cub Scout Den 436

Tuesday January 6

- 9:00 am Morning Prayer Service
- 7:00 pm Alzheimer's Support Group
- 7:00 pm Boy Scout Troop 193

Wednesday January 7

- 2:30 pm Homework Club
- 6:00 pm Fellowship Meal
- 6:30 pm Cadet Troop 30480
- 7:30 pm Kitty Hawk Board Meeting

Thursday January 8

- 6:30 am Men's Bible Study
- 9:00 am Morning Prayer Service
- 5:30 am Daisy Troop 34303
- 6:00 pm Daisy Troop 35322
- 7:00 pm 12-Step SA Group

Saturday January 10

- 8:00 am Breakfast & Bible Study
- 5:00 pm Saturday Evening Worship
- 7:00 pm Alcoholics Anonymous

Sunday January 11

- 6:30 am Breakfast Service at FLC
- 8:30 am Traditional Worship Service
- 11:00 am Contemporary Worship
- 5:00 pm Thrivent Meeting

Monday January 12

- 1:15 pm Prayer Shawl Knitters & Crocheters
- 2:30 pm Homework Club
- 4:00 pm Brownies Troop 32314
- 6:30 pm Cub Scout Den 436

Tuesday January 13

- 9:00 am Morning Prayer Service
- 7:00 pm Alzheimer's Support Group
- 7:00 pm Boy Scout Troop 193

Wednesday January 14

- 2:30 pm Homework Club
- 6:00 pm Fellowship Meal

Thursday January 15

- 6:30 am Men's Bible Study
- 9:00 am Morning Prayer Service
- 7:00 pm 12-Step SA Group

Friday January 16

- 2:00 pm Bethany Communion
- 6:30 pm Kitty Hawk Square Dancing

Saturday January 17

- 8:00 am Breakfast & Bible Study
- 5:00 pm Saturday Evening Worship
- 6:30 pm Head-to-Heart
- 7:00 pm Alcoholics Anonymous

Office Hours

Monday - Friday 9:30 am - 3:30 pm
Closed 12:00 noon - 1:00 pm for lunch

Normal Coverage:

Judy Washburn - Monday / Tuesday

Linda Newcomer -

Wednesday / Thursday / Friday

Altar Flowers

No Flower Donation

Attendance & Offering

Sunday December 28

Attendance 115

Christmas Eve Offering \$1,949

October 2013-September 2014 Year-End Results

Total Operating Income	\$248,911
Total Operating Expenses	\$250,630
Total Net Income	-\$ 1,719*

**This was a lesser amount than projected.*

2015 Contribution Envelopes

The 2015 Contribution Envelopes are available for pickup in the church narthex. If you cannot find a box with your name on it, please contact the church office.

Bob Evans Fundraiser

Be sure to support the Youth fundraiser at Bob Evans on **Monday January 5**. 15% of proceeds from your meal that day will be donated to the GSLC youth. Flyers are in the Weekly Announcements and also available on the website.

(continued from page 1)

In these few verses, the writer of John uses two philosophical and religious ideas current in the first century in order to get at what happened when God was born as a baby in Bethlehem. There is "logos" from Greek philosophy, which is the truth or wisdom of God. Then there is the Jewish biblical idea that when God created the world, God spoke the world into being – "God said, let there be light, etc." (Genesis 1:3 and following.) John then taps into the early church's memory and proclamation about the man Jesus and the things he said and did. He puts it all together with soaring, poetic prose to show us Jesus as the living expression of God's truth and wisdom spoken into earthly existence.

John proclaims to us that Jesus was the living, breathing, very human, creative and life-giving power of God. John shows us God on one side and humanity on the other and Jesus in the middle as the word that God spoke to us about God's love and purpose for us all.

A few years ago at a funeral at which I presided, a young man spoke lovingly about his father, Henry, a working-class guy, a factory worker. The son had gone far, both far in life and far from home, studying in major universities in far-flung cities as he became first a medical doctor and then a well-respected expert in his specialty. At the funeral, the doctor said that often when he called home, he would apologize to his father for being so far away, for seldom being able to visit. And Henry would say, "It's OK son, it's OK. Alexander Graham Bell was a great man. He allowed us to go cheek-to-cheek anytime." Jesus was God's way of going "cheek-to-cheek" with us.

(continued on next page)

This is important because it made God's love for us real and tangible. Holy love is like human love in that it has to be embodied in order to be experienced. It is one thing to believe in "romantic love," in two people finding their heart's desire in each other, candlelight dinners, moonlight walks, eternal bliss. It is quite another thing for two people to live together, to struggle to work out their differences, to accept one another's flaws and shortcomings, to live face-to-face in a living, breathing less-than-ideal but oh-so-realistic relationship.

So it is with us and the holy. God became flesh and lived among us because God was not willing to be a far-off, spiritual ideal. God knew that for the divine/human relationship to be real, it had to be fleshed out. That "fleshing out" continues in the life of the church, the "body of Christ" as we embody our faith and love for God in our efforts to live lives of love with one another and the world.

Just like a marriage, it is seldom perfect. It is always a work in progress. It requires work to iron out our differences and accept one another's flaws and shortcomings, to forgive and trust and love and go forward together. It is difficult. It is also "awful, amusing and artificial."

New Member Class

A few people have expressed interest in becoming members of GSLC. If you're interested in learning more about the vision and ministries of GSLC then let the office know and Pastor will contact you to decide when the group will meet. The meetings involve learning some history of the ELCA (for those not familiar); some history of GSLC; and learning about our current vision and ministries going on here. After these discussions you can decide if you want to become a member or not. Either way you can learn more about the way we answer God's call in Kettering, OH. Hope to see you there.

Neighbor-to-Neighbor Food Pantry This Sunday

Be generous with your donations of food to the Neighbor-to-Neighbor Food Pantry this **Sunday January 4**. Any type of non-perishable food item or a cash donation are very much appreciated. This food pantry serves a large area of Kettering and is always in need of your support.

2015 Flower Chart

Please consider donating flowers for our services in honor of a person or event or in memory of a loved one by signing up on the new 2015 Flower Chart hanging in the narthex. We are late getting this posted, so donations for the first few weeks of 2015 would be greatly appreciated.

Financial Peace University

Stop and think about this for a second. Imagine what the people of God could do for the Kingdom of God if they were debt free. What would you be able to do if you were debt free? Imagine what it would feel like to be able to give freely and generously toward needs you feel passionate about, whenever God leads you to. Financial Peace University will walk you through the process that will get you there and make it incredibly practical in your daily life. And if you know anything about Dave Ramsey you know it's going to be a lot of fun! To learn more and register for the class, visit our GSLC website, or go the Financial Peace University website at daveramsey.com. Also come to the class preview on **Monday January 26** at 7:00 pm in the Chapel to find out more. You'll be glad you did! The six-week class begins on **Monday February 2**. If you have additional questions, contact Martin Pierce at 287-4021 or Kathy Seim at 294-1145.

Prayer Shawls

The Good Shepherd Prayer Shawl Knitters and Crocheters sent seven prayer shawls to St. Luke's Hospice in Bethlehem, PA in December. St. Luke's provides hospice care for veteran service men and women. The prayer shawls sent to St. Luke's are always gratefully acknowledged by the facility and sometimes individual families send notes of thanks to the Good Shepherd group. A special request for red, white and blue prayer shawls has been received from St. Luke's Hospice. Anyone wishing to knit or crochet a prayer shawl to address the request would be very much appreciated. Monetary donations to help with the cost of mailing prayer shawls would also be appreciated. The Good Shepherd Prayer Shawl Knitters and Crocheters will meet on **Monday January 12** in the lounge from 1:15 to 2:30 pm. Please join us as we use our hearts and hands to spread God's love through the prayer shawl ministry.

Lutheran Social Services Adult Mission Opportunity

Peace Lutheran Church has invited our members to partner with other ELCA churches in the Dayton area for an adult mission opportunity through Lutheran Social Services to serve families in our local areas affected by natural disasters. This mission opportunity is planned for the week of **April 6**. The team will meet locally and travel to the work site each day--the proposed area would be either North or Northeast of Dayton where flooding has been a problem. Disciples are needed to help with framing, dry walling, painting, wiring, plumbing and various other talents. Those interested should contact Larry Grunden at 426-1441 or email him at intern@peacebeavercreek.org.

Hope4Us

Hope4Us is a new Christian faith-based peer-to-peer support group for anyone in the community who wants to improve their mental health and work towards wellness and recovery. This includes people who live with mental illness and those who are supporting a family member living with mental illness. We believe recovery is for everyone. In other words, each of us will experience mental health issues in our lifetime--depression, bi-polar, anxiety, post-traumatic stress, and mental disabilities. Hope4Us seeks to Hope, Talk, Empower, Engage, and Pray creating a safe place which serves everyday ordinary people help each other towards recovery--professionals and domestic professionals, people in transition or students. All are welcome--adults 18 and older. Wellness is holistic and attempts to foster a balance of: Spiritual, physical, emotional, intellectual, occupational, social and environmental dimensions.

The program begins in **January 2015** on the second and fourth Wednesdays of every month from 6:00 - 8:00 pm at Christ the King Lutheran Church, 50 Nutt Road in Centerville.

For more information: Hope4Ussupport.org. This is a Wellness and Recovery Ministry of the Southern Ohio Synod, ELCA.

~ O Lord Hear Our Prayer ~
From Week of December 28

Praise and Thanksgiving to God for:

- ◆ The people and friends of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
- ◆ Bishop Elizabeth Eaton, Presiding Bishop, ELCA, Chicago
- ◆ Reverend Suzanne Dillahunt, Bishop, Southern Ohio Synod, ELCA, Columbus
- ◆ Companion Synods: East of Lake Victoria Diocese, Tanzania, East Africa; Evangelical Church - Mecklenburg, Germany; Evangelical Lutheran Church - Republic of Kazakhstan, Russia; Sinodo Espirito Santos Belem, Brazil

Prayer Ventures - January 4: As a church of moral discernment, we lift up the ELCA social statement "The Church and Criminal Justice: Hearing the Cries." We are called to support civil rights organizations that fight to end racism and ensure justice for all.

Members and friends with medical concerns and other needs:

NEW THIS WEEK

- ◆ Mark - surgery (from Shirley Osburn)
- ◆ Gloria Linebaugh - will have surgery on Tuesday (from Ginny Herbeck)
- ◆ Jim & Kay Landis - struggling with stem cell procedure for Jim (from Thiemans)

FROM LAST WEEK

- ◆ Mark - leg surgery (from Shirley Osburn)
- ◆ Dave M - surgery (from Anna Lee Sawdey)
- ◆ Nancy - intensive wound care (from Pam Bauser)
- ◆ All who are missing loved ones now with God for eternity (from Roger & Pam Bauser)
- ◆ Elaine - treatment for ovarian cancer (from Roger & Pam Bauser)
- ◆ Tracy - chemoradiation (from Roger & Pam Bauser)
- ◆ Marilyn - family issues (from Kathy Seim)
- ◆ Sybil - pneumonia (from Kathy Seim)
- ◆ Leslie - looking for job (from Cindy Grove)
- ◆ Brenda - brain surgery & chemo (from Bambi Higgins)

Members and families who have lost friends or loved ones:

- ◆ Family of Richard Ball on death of his sister Shirley Brockman

Members who are serving in the armed forces and for their families:

- ◆ Devin Cahill - enlisted in the military - prayers of safety

Submit your prayer requests to goodshepherd.gslc@gmail.com or call the church office. Prayer requests will be listed for two weeks. If after that time you would like your request to remain on this list, resubmit your request. Please use this sheet daily to remember those who are near and dear to the Good Shepherd community of faith.

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
901 East Stroop Road
Kettering, OH 45429

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

***Call the office to request
a copy of the Weekly Staff if
you are unable to attend the
service or if you know someone
who is unable to attend.***



January Birthdays

Roger Hartmann—January 4
Don Bennett—January 6
Cari Pierce—January 9
Jennifer Kellstrom—January 10
Paula Bennett—January 14
Gerry Harte—January 22
Wayne Rosholt—January 22
Mary Brelsford--January 24
Tyler Grove—January 28
Bill Fahle—January 29
Kelly Hartmann—January 31

If you have a birthday or anniversary this month but do not see your name on the list, contact the church office to update our database records.

If you do not wish to have your birthday or anniversary published in the GSLC Announcements, contact the church office.