



THE SHEPHERD'S VOICE NOVEMBER 2017

Jesus said "I am the good shepherd. The sheep hear the shepherd's voice and he leads them. They follow him because they know his voice."

John 10:11, 3-4

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 300 Union Ave., Somerville, NJ, 908-685-1660. For directory, see page 13.

www.gslutheranchurch.com OR www.facebook.com/GoodShepherdLutheranChurchSomervilleNJ

Members, be sure to sign up for a member login so you have access to the directories and more.

Pastors: Rev. Christine Stiger and Rev. Chelsea Miller

JOIN US ON SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5

All Saints' Day celebrates the baptized people of God, living and dead, who are the body of Christ. During worship on All Saints' Sunday, we give thanks for all the saints by lifting up the names of our loved ones, who have died since last All Saints' Day.

9:30 AM—Worship with Holy Communion

10:45 AM—Prayers in Memorial Garden

10:45 AM—Jr. Youth Group

11:00 AM—Faith Talk

5:00 PM—Youth Gathering Participants Meet 5:30 PM—Youth Group Gathers for Dinner

7:00 PM—AGAPE CONCERT

All are welcome and encouraged to attend!

Good Shepherd will be hosting the Reformation Remix Tour featuring Lutheran hip-hop artist, Agape, to get folks excited about the 2018 Youth Gathering in Houston, TX!

A \$5 donation per person is requested (but money should not be a reason to not attend!).

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YOU ARE INVITED TO CELEBRATE A LIFE IN MINISTRY HONORING

PASTOR CHRISTINE STIGER

SUNDAY, NOV. 12, IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING 9:30 AM WORSHIP



Visit with Pastor Chris ~ Thursdays November 2 or 9 (5pm-8pm) or Fridays November 3 or 10 (11am-1pm)

Come to Worship! We will want to surround Pastor Chris with her flock in our last opportunity to gather in worship together with her at Good Shepherd.

Party Attendance ~ Everyone is welcome, even if you forget to sign-up. (But if you sign-up or on the kiosk, we'll be sure to have enough food for all – thank you!)

On-Line

We have been blessed by Pastor Chris's ministry with us for almost 10 years, and now we have the great honor and blessing of celebrating her retirement from active church leadership. Please join in to make this a warm and wonderful gathering of a grateful congregation!

THANKSGIVING WORSHIP AND PIE NITE ~ TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 22 AT 7:30 PM

Join us for worship as we give thanks to God! Then stay afterwards for Pie Nite and enjoy a variety of pies lovingly baked by church members.

Sign up online at or on the kiosk to bake (or buy!) your favorite pie!

Be sure to invite your family and friends to join the celebration.

Pie Nite Signup



ADVENT SEASON BEGINS AND WITH IT, A NEW CHURCH YEAR!

During the four weeks of the Advent season, the world awaits with hope and expectation for the coming of the Savior.

Here are three great ways for you to prepare for and be engaged this Advent season:

- ☆ **Advent Wreath Making:** Sunday, Nov. 26 at 10:45 AM - All are invited to make an Advent Wreath for your home and for our homebound members! There will also be a station set up to learn about the Advent wreath and how to use it! Donations of \$5.00 are appreciated to help defray costs.
- ☆ **Advent Wreaths for Homebound Members.** Sign up on the kiosk to volunteer to
 - (a) sponsor a wreath with a \$10 donation (place in Laura's mail slot noting Homebound Wreath)
 - (b) make a wreath for a homebound member at our wreath making event after service on Nov 26, or
 - (c) deliver a wreath to a homebound member. Sign-up on the kiosk
- ☆ **Advent Wreath Lighting:** Each Sunday, we light candles on our Advent wreath symbolic of the light of Christ coming into the world. This year, we invite families or small groups of friends to help us light the candles during 9:30 AM worship. Please sign up on the kiosk. See Pastor Chelsea if you'd like more information.

Sundays at Good Shepherd

Holy Communion at all worship services
Professional Nursery Care Sunday mornings

Sunday, Nov. 5, All Saints' Sunday

Matthew 5:1-12 Blessed are the poor in spirit

- ✙ 9:30 AM Worship
- ✙ 10:45 AM—Prayers in Memorial Garden
- ✙ 10:45 AM—Jr. Youth Group
- ✙ 11:00 AM—Faith Talk
- ✙ 5:00 PM—Youth Gathering Participants Meet
- ✙ 5:30 PM—Youth Group Gathers for Dinner
- ✙ 7:00 PM—Agape Concert

Sunday, Nov. 12, 23rd Sunday after Pentecost

John 3:16-17 The Son of Man will be lifted up

- ✙ 9:30 AM Worship -
- ✙ Following Worship a Brunch to Celebrate A Life in Ministry Honoring Pastor Christine Stiger

Sunday, Nov. 19, 24th Sunday after Pentecost

Matthew 25:14-30 Slaves entrusted with talents

- ✙ COMMITMENT SUNDAY
- ✙ 9:30 AM Grace Alive! Worship
- ✙ 10:45 AM Family Faith Formation
- ✙ 11:00 AM Faith Talk
- ✙ 12:00 noon Advocacy Workshop
- ✙ 1:00 PM Fill My Cup Jr.

Tuesday, Nov. 21, Thanksgiving Service

Luke 17:11-19 The man healed of leprosy returns to give thanks to Jesus

- ✙ 7:30 PM Worship
- ✙ Pie Nite

Sunday, Nov. 26, Christ the King

Matthew 25:31-46 The separation of sheep and goats

- ✙ 9:30 AM Festival Worship
- ✙ 10:45 AM Advent Wreath making for home and the homebound

As is our Good Shepherd custom, the fall is the time we contemplate the many blessings in our lives and prayerfully consider how we will respond with offerings to continue and expand our ministries in the coming year.

For four Sundays in October and November, we have focused on different aspects of our giving here in our community, in our state, in our country and in the world. All of this will culminate in our

COMMITMENT SUNDAY ON NOVEMBER 19

On this day, we will join together as a congregation to pledge our financial support for our wonderful church community, ensuring that the ministries we have been called to do will continue to grow and flourish

**You Have Some Questions About What's Next...**

With Pastor Chris' retirement date rapidly approaching, I'm sure many folks are wondering about next steps for Good Shepherd's pastoral leadership. Council met with Bishop Tracie Bartholomew on October 17th to discuss our near-term plans and this is what we have so far:

From now until November 15th, we plan to honor and celebrate Pastor Chris' ministry and say our heartfelt goodbyes.

From November 16th to the end of the year, we plan to honor and celebrate the wonderful season of Advent and Christmas, bringing in additional assistance for Pastor Chelsea if/when needed.

Starting in January, we will take some time to do longer-term visioning and planning work with the congregation to determine our pastoral and staffing needs for the church we are today, and for the church we are becoming.

Pastor Chelsea is committed to walking with us in this transition time and we are so grateful for her excellent pastoral and leadership skills. Please feel free to contact me or any of our Council leaders with your questions or concerns. I hope to see you at Pastor Chris' Celebration Brunch on November 12th!

With peace and joy, Council President Joyce Jonat

Newsletter Deadline is Sunday, November 12

For the December 2017 issue.

Children, Youth and Family (CY&F) Activities

To view our many photos or learn more about CY&F click on

CY&F

Extra Mile Giving

Applications for next year's Extra Mile Giving (EMG) appeals are due by Dec 1, 2017.



EMG appeals are requests for the donation of money or purchased goods for the benefit of outside organizations. This is a form of outreach for Good Shepherd, and a way to assist causes that are important to our congregational members.

The EMG application is available on the GSLC website and in the Social Ministry mailbox. Please submit the form to socialministrychair@gslutheranchurch.org or place in the Social Ministry mail slot by Dec 1.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>Celebrating the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation On Sun., Oct.29</p> <p>Go to page 14 or Face Book for more photos.</p> 			<p>1</p> <p>9:00am Wednesday Away @ Cross Roads</p> <p>9:30am Crafters</p> <p>7:00pm Confirmation</p> <p>7:30pm Finance</p>	<p>2</p> <p>10:00am ESL</p> <p>1:00pm Bible Study</p> <p>7:45pm Choir</p>	<p>3</p> <p>9:00am Spiritual Direction</p>	<p>4</p> <p>10:00am NJ Gay Men's Chorus</p> <p>10:00am Comfort Creators</p>
<p>5</p> <p>All Saints Sunday</p> <p>FALL-Turn clocks back 1 hour @ 2:00 AM</p> <p>9:30am Worship</p> <p>10:45am Jr. Youth Group Gr. 3-6</p> <p>11:00am Faith Talk</p> <p>5:00pm Houston Youth Gathering</p> <p>5:30pm Youth Dinner</p> <p>7:00pm Agape Concert</p>	<p>6</p> <p>6:30pm Stitches (</p> <p>8:00pm AA</p>	<p>7</p> <p>ELECTION DAY</p> <p>10:00am ESL</p> <p>12:00pm Lunchtime Bible Study</p> <p>1:00pm Stitches</p> <p>7:30pm Cong. Exec. Committee</p>	<p>8</p> <p>1:30m 60+ers</p> <p>7:00pm Fill My Cup Gr. 9 @ Starbucks</p> <p>7:00pm Social Ministry</p> <p>7:30pm Grace Alive! - All</p>	<p>9</p> <p>10:00am ESL</p> <p>1:00pm Bible Study</p> <p>7:45pm Choir</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p> <p>9:00am NJ Gay Men's Chorus Rehearsal</p>
<p>12</p> <p>Farewell & Godspeed to Pr. Chris</p> <p>9:30am Worship</p> <p>10:45am Celebration Brunch for Pr. Chris</p> <p>Newsletter Deadline</p>	<p>13</p> <p>7:30pm Tech Team</p> <p>8:00pm AA</p>	<p>14</p> <p>10:00am ESL</p> <p>12:00pm Lunchtime Bible Study</p> <p>5:30 Munch & Learn— Mindfulness for Caregivers</p> <p>7:30pm AA District 35</p> <p>7:30pm Council</p>	<p>15</p> <p>9:30am Crafters</p> <p>7:00pm Confirmation</p> <p>7:30pm Grace Alive! - All</p>	<p>16</p> <p>10:00am ESL</p> <p>1:00pm Bible Study</p> <p>7:45pm Choir</p>	<p>17</p> <p>6:00pm Food Basket Setup</p>	<p>18</p> <p>7:30am LMM Breakfast</p> <p>9:00 Assemble & Deliver Food Baskets</p> <p>9:30am Caring for Caregivers</p>
<p>19</p> <p>Commitment Sunday</p> <p>9:30am Grace Alive! Worship</p> <p>10:45am Family Faith Formation</p> <p>11:00am Faith Talk</p> <p>12:00pm Advocacy Workshop</p> <p>1:00pm Gr. 3-6 Fill My Cup Jr. @ Starbucks</p>	<p>20</p> <p>6:30pm Stitches</p> <p>8:00pm AA</p>	<p>21</p> <p>10:00am ESL</p> <p>12:00pm Lunchtime Bible Study</p> <p>1:00pm Stitches</p> <p>7:30pm Thanksgiving Service</p> <p>8:30pm Pie Nite</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23 THANKSGIVING DAY</p> <p>Church Office Closed</p> 	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>
<p>26</p> <p>9:30am Worship</p> <p>11:00am Advent Wreath Making</p> <p>11:00am Worship Ministry Team</p> <p>Christmas Toys for Jail Chaplaincy Due</p>	<p>27</p> <p>1:00pm Somerville Elks Blood Drive</p> <p>7:00pm Evangelism</p> <p>7:00pm Daughters of Eve Craft Nite</p> <p>8:00pm AA</p>	<p>28</p> <p>10:00am ESL</p> <p>12:00pm Lunchtime Bible Study</p> <p>7:00pm Children, Youth, & Family</p> <p>7:30pm Adult Ministry</p>	<p>29</p> <p>9:30am Crafters</p> <p>7:00pm Fill My Cup for Gr. 7&8 Confirmants</p> <p>7:30pm Grace Alive! - All</p>	<p>30</p> <p>10:00am ESL</p> <p>1:00pm Bible Study</p> <p>7:45pm Choir</p>		

Holiday Worship Steward Scheduling

Worship stewards will be scheduled online through the Ministry Scheduler Program (MSP).

Look for an email early in November inviting you to sign up for the **Thanksgiving** service, and later in November for the **Christmas Eve Services and the Hymnfest on Dec. 31**. This will provide you with the opportunity to choose when you are available and how you would like to serve. If you do not use MSP and would like to serve as a steward please contact the office (908-685-1660).



Holiday Worship - All with Holy Communion
Sunday, Dec. 24: 9:30 AM 4th Sunday in Advent Worship
 5:00 PM Christmas Eve Family Candlelight Worship
 9:00 PM Christmas Eve Candlelight Carol Worship
Sunday, Dec. 31: 9:30 AM Hymn Fest

The Living Nativity - Two performances on Saturday Dec. 16, 5:00 and 7:00 PM outside on the church lawn

Mark your calendars for GSLC's annual reenactment of the traditional Christmas story with live animals.

Why not participate this year as a performer, baker, usher, or crew member? Sign up now on the Kiosk.

This year we are in particular need of someone to film and/or photograph the performance.

Sign up now on the kiosk or at

For details contact Ellen Parker at hookcookblue@gmail.com



Angel Tree Gift Ministry

The Angel Tree benefits families from Safe+Sound Somerset (formerly Resource Center for Women), Visions and Pathways (formerly Somerset Home for Temporarily Displaced Children), and the Somerville area.

The tree in the Narthex will have tags of requests from individuals. Please consider selecting a tag, purchasing the gift, and dropping it off at the church under the tree with the tag attached.

If any groups or individuals would like to purchase a large "ticket item" such as Baby Monitor, Leap Frog Learning Toys, DVD Player, Digital Camera contact Lisa Staib.

- ☆ Gift tags will be available Nov. 1
- ☆ Gifts should be *unwrapped*, but donations of wrapping supplies are also needed.
- ☆ Gifts are due back by **Sunday, Dec. 3**

Your support is always greatly appreciated.

Lisa Staib, Angel Tree Coordinator
 Supported by Thrivent Action Team



Christmas Toys

For Children of Somerset County Jail Residents. Sponsors: Lutheran Men in Mission (LMM)

Toys are donated to the Somerset Jail Chaplaincy, where they will be distributed to children of inmates during the Christmas season. Collection starts Nov. 1. How can you help?

- For monetary contributions use the blue "Outreach/Extra Mile Giving" envelopes (in pews and Welcome Center) and indicate "Toys."
- Purchase a new, non-violent, unwrapped toy in the \$5--\$25 price range. Leave new toys in the marked bin in the Narthex by **Sunday, Nov. 26**.

Youth will have their annual Target Shopping Spree to purchase these gifts at a date to be announced..

Thanksgiving and Christmas Food Baskets

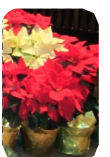
For these holidays, we help at least 15 families in need within the church and local community by providing a week's supply of food and basic household necessities. How to give these families a more Blessed holiday:



- **DONATE FOOD.** Shopping bags with lists are available in the Narthex. Take a bag and bring it back filled!
- **DONATE MONEY.** Monetary gifts are used to purchase turkeys, hams and other perishables. Use the blue "Outreach/Extra Mile Giving" envelopes (in pews and Welcome Center) and indicate "Food Basket."
- **DONATE A TURKEY OR HAM.** We can accommodate frozen turkeys. Contact Richard Alagona.
- **HELP ASSEMBLE / DELIVER BASKETS.** Please sign up on the kiosk if you can help. The Thanksgiving preparation will be on **Fri. Nov. 18 at 6:00 PM** and **Sat. Nov. 19 at 9:00 AM** Youth are invited to participate. Cannot come Saturday morning, but willing to deliver— please note that on the sign-up sheet and contact Richard Alagona to setup date. Sign up online at **FOOD**
- **PLEASE DONATE EARLY.** There is a short window between holiday donations, so we would appreciate any donation that you can make earlier.
- **AS ALWAYS YOUR DONATIONS ARE THE BLESSINGS THAT KEEP THIS MINISTRY GOING.**

CHRISTMAS PLANTS AND MEMORIALS

Donations for Christmas poinsettias, wreaths, and pine roping to decorate the church or monetary gifts to the Memorial Fund may be given in celebration of Christ's birth. **Cost is \$12.00.** Gifts may be made in memory of or in thanksgiving of loved ones.



Deadline is **Sunday, Dec. 10.**

Please use the white "Flowers and Plants" envelopes available in pew racks and the Welcome Center. Contact the church office if you need one mailed. You may mail your gift to the church.



Through God's grace we are made new each day to proclaim Jesus Christ — and to boldly participate in God's work. Our faith, Martin Luther said, is a "living, busy, active, mighty thing."

~ ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton

At a meeting I was at recently, a colleague shared how impressed and grateful they have been watching Good Shepherd throughout its history, particularly with regard to being a resource congregation in the synod. These resources are not only financial but are also in GSLC's historic willingness to be "made new." This congregation is known for its ability to embrace opportunity,

to try new things, to blaze a path for other congregations in New Jersey. Whether it is in finding new ways to engage children, youth, and adults in Christian Education and faith formation, practicing our faith through social ministry, sprucing up the property and ensuring we are greeting visitors in the best possible way, trying new worship experiences or welcoming our community into our doors, GSLC continues to be open to the ways in which God is meeting us here in this place.

The Spirit is most certainly alive as we continue to "be made new" and move forward as a congregation. We are heavy in times of change right now as a congregation and I pray that we continue to embrace opportunities to listen for God and be made new in the Spirit. May we continue to live in the confidence of God's grace!

~ Pastor Chelsea

The Congregation Council at its October 17, 2017 MEETING:

- Donna Walsh reviewed the Sept. 2017 financials for GSLC. Income is down and expenses were up a little.
- Suzanne Westberg reviewed the Sept. 2017 financials for the Day Care. Income was up, expenses down.
- Donna Walsh reported weekly average church attendance of (137) for Sept.
- Council approved the renewal of the ELCA Portico Gold+ Health Insurance plan for Pastor Chelsea for 2018.
- Council approved adding Pastor Chelsea as a signer to GSLC's bank accounts and removing Pastor Chris pending her retirement date.
- Council acknowledged new members Bob Rolando and Carol Shutack.
- Pastor Chelsea reported a total of (50) youth beginning attendance in the Christian Education program in October.
- Pastor Chelsea reported that we have (19) youth signed up for the 2018 Youth Gathering in Houston, TX next summer.

Good Shepherd received thank you letters from:

- ELCA
- IHN
- NJ Synod
- Operation Jersey Cares
- Ocean Partnership for Children
- Somerville Senior Housing
- Food Bank Network
- Jail Chaplaincy
- Roosevelt School

<i>As of September 30</i>	Year to Date Actual	YTD Budget	Annual Spending Plan
Offering Income	\$382,578	\$404,461	\$556,006
Total Income	\$405,300	\$430,362	\$584,346
Total Expense	\$457,926	\$468,847	\$618,595
Net Income minus Expenses	\$(52,626)	\$(38,485)	\$(34,249)



Have you seen the light? ! Thanks to the willingness of Jack Farmer to work aloft, the challenging task of installing new LED bulbs over the entire altar area has been completed. Property will continue the LED conversion as other bulbs in the sanctuary need replacement. This will eliminate the frequent need to deal with burnt out bulbs since the LED bulbs have an extremely long life expectancy. Not to mention the savings of electricity.

On Saturday October 28 we had our fall work day to spruce up a number of things around the buildings.

Property held its first meeting at the new time this past Sunday and will continue to schedule our meetings at 8:15 AM. Although we will try to keep to the third Sunday of the month, due to conflicts, we will be holding our next meeting on December 3rd in room B/C.

I continue to be grateful for the continued help of all of the property team as well as the many members of Good Shepherd that share their time and talent to maintain our facilities.

I know this may get redundant from month to month but, if you see something you feel needs some sprucing up or repair drop a note in the property mailbox outside the church office or let a property team member know

Bob Wollenberg, Property Chair— propertychair@gslutheranchurch.org

• **Caring for Caregivers will sponsor-Living with Early-Stage Dementia Presentation—What Is It? Saturday, November 18, 9:30 AM in Room A**

We invite all to share in this very informative session. Bring your family and friends to learn how we can support each other through the challenges of life while living with this illness. Nancy Lorince, Certified Dementia Practitioner, Managing Director of ComForCare will help facilitate the conversation and supply helpful resources



- Hear the personal story of a GSLC Member's journey & discoveries
- Learn the difference between Memory Loss, Dementia and Alzheimer's
- Understand how dementia changes family dynamics
- Acceptance and denial -- individual, family & friends
- Finding physicians who will help diagnose and treat
- Are there treatments for dementia?
- Resources available to help with daily living

Sign-up on kiosk, contact Janice Reinhardt, janlow@verizon.net or sign up online by clicking on

Caring

• **Munch & Learn Free Dinner Presentation for Caregivers. Finding Balance, Mindfulness for Caregivers Tuesday, November 14, 5:30-6:00 PM Mingle and enjoy dinner ~ 6:00-7:30 PM Presentation At The Chelsea at Warren 274 King George Road Warren, NJ 07059**



United Way of Northern New Jersey Caregivers Coalition invites you to an evening of exploring mindfulness— its definition, its health benefits and its practice. Presented by Lanie Kessler David, LCSW, Certified Mindfulness Facilitator with Atlantic Behavioral Health. She is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker for thirty years and has presented classes, workshops and symposiums on this topic to physicians, health care workers and the public for the last decade.

WE HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE! Space is limited. Register by email at Stephanie.Howland@UnitedWayNNJ.org or call 973.993.1160, x534. **Registration is required to ensure there is enough space and food

Good Shepherd and ELCA Advocacy in Action



The Advocacy group of GSLC's Social Ministry team invites you to join us in educating ourselves on the issues, sharing thoughts, and taking steps to bring about positive change. Look for the Advocacy in Action Corner (next to the library) for resources or to come discuss issues of justice after service.

If you would like to participate in GSLC's Advocacy in Action group, please speak with Donna Walsh or Peg Bernhardt

Why Do Advocacy in the Church?

Nov. 19, 10:45-11:30 AM in Room A

Faith Talk will be presented by Pr. Sara Lilja, Director of LEAMNJ (Lutheran Episcopal Advocacy Ministry of New Jersey)

How to do Advocacy in the Church

Nov. 19, Noon-1:30 PM in Room B/C

A workshop is offered for those wishing to learn more. A light lunch will be available for the workshop attendees. If you plan to stay for the lunch and workshop portion, please sign up on the kiosk or online click on

ADVOCACY

“Advocacy is most effective when we engage as a community of faith, as voting constituents, and as informed participants in the democratic process. As people of faith we advocate within a multi faith context, along-side those who are most affected by systemic injustice.” - LEAMNJ For more information go to www.leanmj.org.

There are copies of a ELCA/LEAMNJ brochure in the Advocacy in Action bookcase next to the Library.

We encourage you to express your opinions regarding Legislative Action communicating to your Congress and Senate representatives.

Website— [NJ Legislature](http://NJLegislature)

New Jersey Voting 2017

We look to Christ for guidance on how to be compassionate, caring, and understanding toward our neighbors. God loves all children and teaches that we, as God's people, should follow in Jesus' example and love our neighbor. Through scripture, conversation, and prayer, we can discern how best to love all of God's children.



On **TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7**, New Jersey voters will once again take to the polls to decide the direction of the state. We will elect a new governor this year. Additionally, every member of the New Jersey legislature-State Assembly and Senate-is up for reelection. We encourage you to use your voting privilege



Faithful Ecology is an Affinity Group of the GSLC Social Ministry Team

Assisting the faith community of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in practicing, partnering with faith-based/other collaborative groups, and related activities.

If you would like to participate in future meetings of the Faithful Ecology team or have any questions, please contact Bill Jonat at wjonat@juno.com



Come out and serve the community

on Saturdays in December and January. Good Shepherd will be helping distribution at the Somerville Food Bank.

We gather at the United Reformed Church, 100 Main Street in Somerville around 9:00 AM to set-up before we open the door to the clients.

Make this a family event and share your selves with others.

We need additional men to help with their "muscle" power to set up tables, move food boxes, prepare food bags and clean up

People are in need of food to survive. Through this program we help some spread a week's worth of groceries and for others it is their only assistance.

Please sign up on the kiosk for the Saturday's in December and January. All info is on the signup sheets.

Any questions contact Richard Alagona, RALAGONA@aol.com



Donate Blood

Monday, Nov. 27, 1:00-7:00 PM
at Somerville Elks,
375 Union Avenue, Bridgewater

When you give blood you give another birthday, another anniversary, another talk with a friend, another laugh, another hug, another chance.

Somerset County Food Bank Backpack Bags
A Year-Round Need for Children

Hundreds of children in Somerset County rely on school lunches for their daily meal. When the weekend comes, they would go hungry, if not for the Somerset County Food Bank Backpack Bags program. Bags of food that children can easily make themselves are sent home with them in their backpacks at the end of the week.

Good Shepherd has joined the effort to ensure our community's children are fed. The list below contains suggested items.

• Easy Mac (individual cups)	• Ramen
• Applesauce (individual cups)	• Fruit Snacks
• Pretzels (snack size bags)	• Juice Boxes
• Peanut Butter (individual serving size)	• Granola Bars
• Gallon-size Ziploc Bags	

This is an ongoing project, so drop off your gifts inside the church doors at any time!

Please continue your generous contributions.

"Operation Veteran Thank You"



During our Reformation Sunday Celebration, on Oct. 29, we packed gift bags for Veterans at the Lyons VA Hospital filled with several clothing items, as well as snacks, a puzzle book, patriot bucks and hand-written cards from GSLC!

Thank you to all for bringing in so many wonderful items and donating monies to help purchase items. We also thank Thrivent Financial for their \$250 grant, local Shoprite, Wegmans, and Walmart for gift-card donations which allowed us to fill even more bags. Thanks to GSLC Stitchers and Crafters for fleece hats and lap-blankets.

Because of the generosity of many and Karen's smart shopping we will be able to donate 40 gifts for Veteran's Day and 50 at Christmas so that they know that we thank them for their service, sacrifice and wish them all many blessings from members and friends of GSLC.

LETTING OUR VETERANS KNOW THAT WE CARE

Interfaith Hospitality Network—IHN

A Ministry to the Homeless



Thank you to all who helped in September.

We will host guests on Dec. 3-10

Guests stay at the church evenings and overnight, Sunday-Saturday

HOST VOLUNTEERS for 3 shifts are always needed.

- 5-7 PM: Cook, serve and eat with our guests.
- 7-10 PM: Read, play games and watch videos with the children or sit and talk with the parents.
- 10 PM-6 AM: sleep in a spare room (cots provided by IHN for guests and volunteers.)

For Somerset IHN Annual report click on [IHN Report](#)

Bill Jonat, Coordinator.

IF YOU BUY THINGS ON AMAZON, please consider using Amazon Smile. A few pennies will be donated to IHN. Here's how:

Go to <http://smile.amazon.com>.

Select Charitable donations. Then Search for Interfaith Hospitality Network of Somerset County.

Community Groups



- AA on Mondays, 8:00-9:00 PM
- ESL (English as a Second Language)
Free classes held at Good Shepherd,
Contact: Hunterdon County Education.
Commission at 908-203-5092 or 908-203-5000.
- Local Boy Scout and Girl Scout Troops
- Friends of Somerset County Youth
- Somerset Chaplaincy to the Elderly

**FAITH TALK**

Sunday mornings 11:00 AM, following Worship and refreshments/fellowship. Come and join us as we engage in topics about faith, spirituality, and religion.

- Nov. 5 We'll continue our focus once more on the Reformation, with a presentation by Ed Kunkel on the topic of "Reformation 2 and Continuing." Please join us as we gather and celebrate our Lutheran heritage.
- Nov. 12 Please join in our celebration brunch for Pastor Chris.
- Nov. 19 Special Time—10:45 AM—Why do Advocacy in Church with Rev. Sara Lilja. See page 6 for more information on this program as well as a workshop being offered on how to do advocacy at noon.
- Nov. 27 Advent Begins. Watch for more details to come!

TUESDAY LUNCH TIME BIBLE STUDY AT NOON

We are studying the Gospel of Matthew.

Coordinator: Joan Grace

**THURSDAY WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY AT 1:00 PM**

We meet in Room A at church
Continuing Study of the Lord's Prayer
Coordinator: Janice Reinhardt

Diakonia Mission: "to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ" Ephesians 4:12

Diakonia is an education program to provide spiritual formation to men and women desiring to deepen their understanding of the faith so they might become empowered servants of the Lord.



We will begin a course "Faith in the American Context" led by Rev. Bruce Davidson in late January. Courses consists of five sessions held at Good Shepherd in a small-group setting. Classes are taught by Lutheran pastors and others who are skilled in their area of instruction and eager to share with you their knowledge and love of the Lord. For information contact Joan Grace, Site Manager, joangrace511@optimum.net.

**WALKING IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF MARTIN LUTHER ~ OCTOBER 4-12, 2017**

Did you ever open a picture book and imagine yourself planted in the middle of the scene on the pages before you? Walking through the cobblestone streets and edifices of Wittenberg, Eisleben, Erfurt, and Eisenach, the 16th century life of Martin Luther reaches thru time to touch the present.

From the precisely penned notes by Martin Luther in the margins of his Bible, to the gathering room where Martin Luther invited students to discourse, to the gate Martin Luther knocked on for admittance to the Augustinian monastery... all these and more somehow brought the scholar, the theologian, the reformer, and the man to life.



The 14 Good Shepherd members and friends on this tour of Luther's Germany were joined by 27 other Christian pilgrims from across the U.S. Our knowledgeable guides shared Martin Luther's story within the context of the Reformation period, taking us ~

- ✢ to the monastery where Martin Luther came to understand that we are justified by faith alone;
- ✢ to Wittenberg University where Luther helped shape the education system we know today;
- ✢ to see how teams of people worked with a printing press to reproduce the Bible, making it more accessible to all;
- ✢ to Eisleben where he was born, baptized and the room where Martin Luther reportedly gazed upon St Andreas Church, site of his last four sermons, before he took his earthly life's last breath.

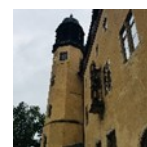
These sites and more brought our Lutheran heritage to life. Asking fellow travelers about their favorite trip moments yields a variety of responses.



- ♥ Pastor Chelsea stood in a pulpit from which Martin Luther preached, one of her life goals.
- ♥ Others enjoyed artifacts curated in Coburg Fortress where Martin Luther once took refuge.
- ♥ Singing Martin Luther's hymn, "A Mighty Fortress is Our God," in the small Corpus Christi Chapel overflowing to standing room only, voices reverberating the song's strength against the stone walls, brought joyful tears to the eyes of many.
- ♥ For others, a highlight was standing in the church where he took his vows as a monk.
- ♥ The sharing of the Eucharist together at week's end was a spiritual capstone to the journey.
- ♥ Standing before Martin Luther's tomb in Castle Church, Wittenberg, was a powerful reminder of the courage required to speak out against the wrongs of this world, and what a humble honor it is to serve God as His Hands, His Feet, His Voice, and His Stewards on earth,

And I do think the pretzels, goulash, and beer were favorites among the group.

Reflection written by traveler Donna Walsh





Whether or not you are over the age of 60 join us for Christian fellowship and enjoy speakers sharing experiences on travels, talents and community programs.

Wednesday, Nov. 8, 1:30 PM at church

A program of interest to *EVERYONE*, not just seniors!!

Sheriff Frank Provenzano will tell us about all the latest scams.

There are many BAD people out there who want to take advantage of YOU!!

You don't have to be 60+ to be scammed!! Come and listen to our Sheriff!!



Wednesday, Dec. 13. 11:00 AM Annual Delicious Christmas Luncheon, prepared and served by the culinary students at Vo-Tech, Bridgewater. Please put your non-refundable \$20.00 check (payable to GSLC) in Sandy Alexander's mail box by December 3. Reservations are required. Sign-up on the kiosk or online at [60+ers](#)

Coordinator: Sandy Alexander at Skzalexander@aol.com



LUTHERAN MEN IN MISSION All men are welcome to come for breakfast, fellowship and interesting discussions as well as service opportunities. Breakfast meeting on **Sat., Nov. 18, at 7:30 AM**
Dean Levin, Coordinator at levin569@verizon.net



GO GREEN. GO HIKE! Providing a healthy activity while enjoying fellowship.
We will walk again early next year.

Bill Jonat, leader

DAUGHTERS OF EVE. Informal gatherings with a focus on women's issues and outreach through diverse experiences

GSLC Women (and Friends) of all ages are invited

Monday, Nov. 27, Linda Rolando will host a "Make & Take" Christmas Tree Ornament workshop at church.

Sign up at the kiosk or online at



LOOKING AHEAD:

- Dec. 11, Joan Grace will host the Annual Cookie Exchange to support GSLC's Living Nativity at her home.
- And in Friday, January 19, we will gather at Church for our Annual Game Night.

As an active GSLC ministry, the Daughters of Eve support the Ronald McDonald House which serves the 4 hospitals in New Brunswick. Please participate in this ministry by donating an item from the Ronald McDonald House Wish List: 12 ft. extension cords; Reusable water bottles; Disposable vinyl gloves (M/L); AAA & AA batteries; Masking tape; Baby wipes (travel-sized & regular); Paper towels; Plastic cutlery; Heavy-duty PAPER bowls & plates; Tide detergent. Monetary donations are also welcome.

Please keep filling the container in the Narthex with aluminum can pull tabs for Ronald McDonald House. THANK YOU!

Coordinator: Stephanie Meister, stephanie.meister@comcast.net

CREATING FOR OTHERS—3 OPPORTUNITIES YEAR ROUND

All Welcome to Participate—NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY—ALL Supplies & Instructions Are Provided



Knit and crochet

Sat. Nov. 4 at 10:00 AM

Knitting and crocheting for the sick, grieving, homebound and those in need.

If interested but cannot attend meetings
Contact Coordinator: Roxanne Powers,
goldierox@msn.com



Shepherd Stitches

Quilting

**Mon. Nov. 6 & 20 at 6:30 PM and
Tues., Nov. 7 & 21 at 1:00 PM**

Create quilts and projects to share with congregation members and non-profit organizations.

Coordinator: Janice Brunsbach



Crafters

Needlework

**Wed. Nov. 1, 15 and 29 at 9:30 AM
Wed. Nov. 8 at 11:00 AM**

Create a variety of gifts celebrating events in our church family and art to decorate the church. Kits available.

Coordinator: Roxanne Powers,
goldierox@msn.com.



CROSS ROADS CAMP AND RETREAT CENTER

Pleasant Grove Rd. Port Murray, NJ

For info call 908-832-7264

or on the internet at:

<http://crossroadsretreat.com> OR

www.facebook.com/CrossRoadsRetreat

Cross Roads Camp and Retreat Center is a place where youth and adults alike can come to be themselves and have fun in God's creation.

They are located on 250 mountaintop acres in beautiful highlands of northwestern NJ. It is an ecumenical camp of the NJ Synod of the ELCA and the Episcopal Diocese of Newark NJ.

LAKE BEISLER

On Sunday, Oct. 22, we gathered together to remember and give thanks for the memories of Lake Beisler. The dam is being removed to comply with DEP regulations. This gives us a chance to be good stewards of creation and create new programs of environmental education. We shared memories and prayed for one another and the Cross Roads community and enjoyed apple cider and donuts.



VOLLEYBALL MARATHON

We can't say THANK YOU enough to those who donated, fund-raised, and participated in our 3rd Annual [Rally for Cross Roads 2017](#)! Together we raised over \$12,000 for Cross Roads!!! All this money will go toward keeping camp affordable for all. So, THANK YOU, THANK YOU! [#RallyForCrossRoads](#) [#WhyIRally](#)



WEDNESDAYS AWAY NOVEMBER 1 AND DECEMBER 6

In November—"Sitting with the Saints" is our theme as we celebrate the saints of our lives. Join us for Wednesdays Away, a time of spiritual renewal on the first Wednesday of the month, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in the Christ Center. Throughout the year we will gather with a variety of spiritual directors who will focus each month upon a different spiritual practice.

SHEPHERD'S GATHERING—NOV. 30-DEC. 3

This is a weekend of renewal and learning for Youth Directors, Pastors, Priests, Sunday School teachers, and other church leaders who work with young people. With continuing education, rest, fellowship, networking, fresh ideas, and great food, this is the perfect weekend retreat to help you rejuvenate before the busy Advent and Christmas seasons.



CHRISTIAN PRE-SCHOOL AND DAYCARE

Follow us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/GSdaycareandpreschool

Check out our new website: www.gsdaycare.org

GREAT THINGS ARE HAPPENING!

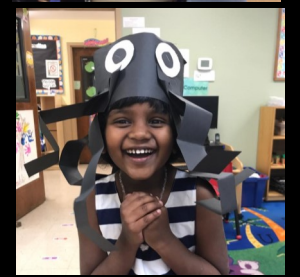
- ♥ October was filled with lots of activities for the daycare! We hosted our annual Parent Night so parents can ask questions & find out what their child does on a daily basis! Our Pumpkin Carving Night with the Dads/Grandpas/Uncles were special times for the children and we had our annual "Trunk or Treating", costume parade and parties.
- ♥ We also celebrated Fire Prevention Week in all the classrooms and had firefighters & a Fire truck come visit

November Value of the month is "Thankfulness"

- ♥ We will be looking forward to our traditional Thanksgiving feast and will learn how our holiday came about. The children can choose to wear a Pilgrim hat or an American Indian feather hat!
- ♥ We are thankful for our "enrichment" teachers (some volunteers) who spend time with us: Pastor Chris, (Chapel Time), Ms Iolene (our gardener), Ms Brenda (Brenda Linton, our Storyteller), Ms Kim (teaching music), Ms Cinzia (cooking) & Ms. Nancy (librarian from the Somerville library)

Looking forward to a busy & worthwhile month!

If you have any questions about our programs, please call Pat or Iolene at 908-704-0080 or email daycaredir@gschurch.org



NOVEMBER

GSLC YOUTH NEWS



Sunday, November 5
5:30pm-6:45pm
Grades 7-12
All are welcome!
Friends too!

Junior Youth Group
November 5
Grades 3-6
10:45am-11:45am



Family Faith Formation
Sunday, November 19
10:45am-11:30am
For Grades 2 and younger with parents



Sunday, November 5
7:00pm
Agape Concert!
All are welcome!



Wednesday, November 8
7:00pm
For Grades 9-12
Starbucks in Somerville

Advent Wreath Making
Sunday, November 26
All are welcome!



Confirmation Corner

Confirmation Classes:
November 1 and 15
7:00-8:30pm
Fill My Cup for Confirmands:
November 29
7:00-8:00pm

Ministry
Team



Children, Youth and Family
Ministry Team Meeting
Tuesday, November 28
@ 7:00pm
All are welcome!

IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

† Kay Young	Homebound Members	Friends
† Prayers of joy and thanksgiving upon the birth of Finnley Charles Blanchard, grandson of Carl & Denise Schulz.	† Gisela Bodnar	† Frank Da Cunzo, dear friend of Kathy Boegershausen
	† Donna Connolly	† Dan Jones, former member
	† Ruth DiMenno	† David Katz, Richard Alagona's spouse and Martin Katz, Richard's father-in-law
	† Romaine Roth	† Connie Kmet, mother of Suzanne Diaz
	† Mel & Betty Schroeder	† Stephen Kmet, brother of Suzanne Diaz
	† Ray Star	† Carolee Berg, Maureen Insua's sister
	† Marge Thompson	† Baby Ed Tischner, grandson of Ed and Virginia Schrum
	† Gail Velcheck	† June and Alvin Thornton, parents of James Thornton
		† Louise Maschella, Brian Pitti's grandmother
		† Family of Ingrid Schaab, Erwin Kuhblank's cousin, upon her death
		† Bucky Winchcock, friend of Joyce Van Vooren



PRAYER MINISTERS

Our prayer ministers are available for prayer on the 2nd Sunday of the month during worship.

They are also available after worship and at home.

Jeff Davis ~ Dan Groth ~ Joyce Jonat ~ Jim Newton
Ron Thronson ~ Alicia Bloch-Chen ~ Naeem Harry

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR CHURCH FAMILY ON THEIR BIRTHDAYS

11/1 Kristin Carriel	11/10 Glen Denys	11/23 Francesca Dika
Ellen Mone	Jody Grapes	11/24 Tiffani Taylor-Jenkins
Anthony Roselle	Arlene Reinhardt	11/25 Bill LaRuffa
11/2 Barbara Hoyda	11/12 Lynn Blenderman	Caitlin Syage
11/3 Cindy Dilks	Jason Chen	11/26 Joyce Jonat
Linda Froehlich	Dave Wirth	11/28 Nancy Macher
Joy Johnson	11/13 Margaret Liska	Greg Reinhardt
11/4 Amber Kozloski Roselle	Judy Miller	11/29 Wayne DeMarco
Karen Maddock	11/14 Ruth Mengak	Steve Scholl
11/5 Heidi Bodnar	11/15 Joyce Fraser	Brian Gyeski
11/6 Edna Hikes	11/17 Ellen Sapiezynski	Mel Schroeder
11/8 Rebecca Bowser	11/18 Maryanne Gabbett	Louis Zaroni
David Mountney	11/19 Caleigh Kerestes	11/30 Lily Chang
11/9 Bea Allen	Joyce VanVooren	Jason Lilly
James From	11/20 Jason Barnoski	Nadine Pitti
Eric Shugan	Phoebe Chen	Christian Schaeffer
	11/22 Sue Yarus	

If your birthday is incorrect or not listed here, please contact the church office. Thank you.

CHURCH OFFICE Telephone: 908-685-1660 Fax: 908-685-1667

On the web at www.gslutheranchurch.org

On Facebook at www.facebook.com/GoodShepherdLutheranChurchSomervilleNJ

General - office@gslutheranchurch.org

Church council - askcouncil@gslutheranchurch.org

Finance Secretary - financesecretary@gslutheranchurch.org

Worship Steward Coordinator - scheduling@gslutheranchurch.org



QR CODE

Scan it for church's website where a donation can be made via credit card for your regular offerings or special offerings such as Christmas or Easter.

STAFF

The Rev. Christine A. Stiger Pastor

x 11 pastorchris@gslutheranchurch.org

The Rev. Chelsea Miller Associate Pastor

x 14 pastorchelsea@gslutheranchurch.org

For Emergency Pastoral Care: Call 908-334-7767

Ron Arias Maintenance

Alba Buitrago Sunday Nursery Professional

Debbie Gelormine Senior Choir Director

Debbie@gslutheranchurch.org

Charles German Organist/Music Coordinator

charles@gslutheranchurch.org

Laura Meerovich Office Administrator

x 15 office@gslutheranchurch.org

GOOD SHEPHERD CHRISTIAN PRESCHOOL & DAY CARE

Pat Whitehead Daycare Director

Telephone: 908-704-0080

daycairedir@gslutheranchurch.org

[Facebook.com/GSdaycareandpreschool](https://www.facebook.com/GSdaycareandpreschool)

www.gsdaycare.org

CONGREGATION COUNCIL MINISTRIES AND CHAIRS

COUNCIL POSITION	COUNCIL MEMBER	MINISTRY CHAIR	EMAIL ADDRESS
President	Joyce Jonat		councilchair@gslutheranchurch.org
President—Elect	Donna Walsh		
Council Secretary	Skip Schaeffer		
Council Recorder	Cindy Dilks		recordingsecretary@gslutheranchurch.org
Adult Ministry	Jim Bonastia, liaison	Lee Wollenberg	
Children, Youth and Family	Florindo Gallicchio, liaison	Louise Eilers	childrenyouthchair@gslutheranchurch.org
Daycare	Suzanne Westberg, liaison	Gale Murphy	daycarechair@gslutheranchurch.org
Evangelism	Nadine Pitti, liaison	Janine Shugan	
Finance	Donna Walsh, liaison	Jill Weidner	financechair@gslutheranchurch.org
Property	Bob Wollenberg	Bob Wollenberg	propertychair@gslutheranchurch.org
Social Ministry	Donna Walsh	Donna Walsh	
Stewardship	Karen Smith, liaison	Open	stewardshipchair@gslutheranchurch.org
Worship	Nancy Waltermire	Nancy Waltermire	worshipchair@gslutheranchurch.org
Technology	—	Jeff Davis	techchair@gslutheranchurch.org
Member-at-large	Skip Fuller		
Youth Representative	Ethan Eilers	—	youthrep@gslutheranchurch.org

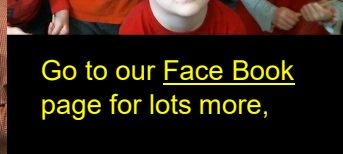
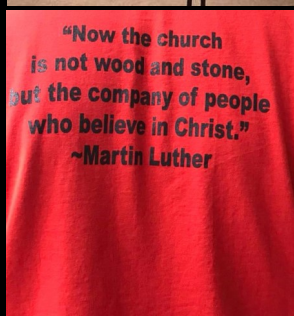
REFORMATION SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2017

What a great day celebrating the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation.

We began with worship, singing hymns spanning 500 years and “nailing” our wishes for change in the world and church to a door

An awesome potluck supper was followed by lots of fun—arts and crafts, games for young and old, a Martin Luther time-line with photos taken by church members. and the popular photo booth.

Our service project for the day packaged gifts for veterans. [See pg.7](#)



Go to our [Face Book](#) page for lots more,