



THE SHEPHERD'S VOICE

A Monthly Publication of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
"A Christ Centered Community of Faith, Living His Love"



95 Kings Highway, PO Box 218, Warwick, NY 10990
www.warwicklutheranchurch.org and Facebook
Reverend Ken Susskraut, Pastor gslcrev@warwick.net
Mrs. Linda Ridella, President (845/986-9741)

Office/Sharon Bevacqua 845-986-3040 (Phone), 845-986-3050 (Fax), gslc@warwick.net

January Anno Domini 2018

BOARD OF ELDERS (Tony Hallman, Chairperson/845-987-8324)

WORSHIP SERVICE SCHEDULE:

9:00AM Traditional Eucharist
10:00AM Family Church (1st Sunday – Holy Eucharist)
10:30AM Sunday School and Inter-Generational Study

Christmas Poinsettias

Michelle Davis, Altar Guild Chairperson (845/651-3541)
were placed "to the glory of God" by:



Family

David & Henry Lenzian
Johanna Heidecke

Dan & Roberta Beany
Betty Hopper
Kim & Steve Ormsby
Alison & Michael Orlando
Sharon Garcia
Jon & Carol Stidworthy
Dan & Kathy Dembeck
Norma Bryant
David & Sharon Bevacqua

Gail & Paul Andersen
Laura & Chris Massari

Don & Mary-Lou Trone
Ridella Family & Raymond Smith
Nancy & Steve Hoverman

Designation

In Memory of Pearl Lenzian
Wishing my dearly departed a blessed Christmas in Heaven; my husband, son, parents and companion.
In Thanksgiving to God for Ronan, Lucas, Max and Jack.
In Thanksgiving for my first great-grandson.
In Celebration of the Birth of Jesus.
In Memory of Patricia Reitter, Frank Orlando and Claire Marrone.
In Memory of my mom, Paula Nugent.
In Memory of our daughters, Chrissy and Cindy, and our grandson Ricky.
In Memory of members of the Myruski & Dembeck Families.
In Memory of Loved Ones.
In loving Memory of our dads; Robert Wulfken and Albert Bevacqua and beloved family loved ones.
In Thanksgiving for life's blessings and in Memory of loved ones.
In Memory of our mothers; Nanette and Kathleen, at Christmas and always.
To the Glory of God.
In Memory of Howard and Betty Smith.
In Celebration of Jesus' Birth!





**2018 Sanctuary Flower & Sanctuary Candles
(Michelle Davis, Altar Guild Chairperson 845-651-3541)**

The chart is posted on the hallway bulletin board.
The cost for Sanctuary Flowers is \$22.00 for two vases.
(You will be billed directly by Corwin's Florist.)
Candles are \$12.00 per month.
(Please make checks payable to "Good Shepherd Lutheran Church".)
For special orders, please call Michelle Davis at 845-651-3541.



**"A New Year - A New Start."
(Nancy Hoverman, Chairperson/845-988-6235)**

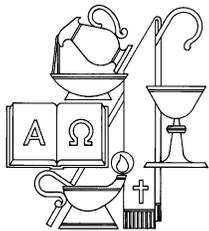
The Worship Committee, with the support of the Board of Elders, would like to again offer, as part of Sunday worship, a monthly contemporary service. For the past year, the 2nd Sunday of the Month Contemporary Service, led by Good Shepherd's Worship Team, has been "on hold" because we are in need of a director.

We do have a group of willing vocalists but are in need of a leader. The leader does not need to be an instrumentalist, just a musician who loves contemporary worship music and can direct the group at weekly rehearsals and monthly services.

Of course, more instrumentalists, especially guitarists, and singers are always welcome! If you would like to participate or recommend a leader, please speak to Nancy Hoverman at [845-988-6235](tel:845-988-6235) or email hoverman@warwick.net.

FIRST PETER 2:5 - "You are a holy priesthood" (Rev. Ken Susskraut, Pastor/845-986-3040)

"The Word became flesh!" (Rev. Ken Susskraut/845-986-3040)



(St. John 1: 1 and 14a) "In the beginning was the Word,
and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
And the Word became flesh and lived among us."

A popular, animated, primetime program of the 1960's was "The Jetsons". It included "George Jetson, his boy, Elroy; daughter; Judy, Jane, his wife, and their dog, Astro!" The ABC Network had in like manner a prehistoric, animated series, "The Flintstones" - one



Network's programing looking back in time; the other into the future.

Some features of everyday life in the Jetsons' world of tomorrow, such as dehydrated foods, space travel, microwave cooking, and solar energy, once thought fancifully fantastic, have become now common place.

Another technical wonder introduced was the Video Phone, which had the ability for a person to be seen while talking from anywhere. In the 1960's, that was thought unimaginable! It was wondered, "Who would want to be seen while talking, especially if you just grabbed for your phone while being fresh from the shower!"

Yet today, what was once thought of as being impossible has become ordinary. We do not only talk by phone but live with the phone, as we walk, eat, and work, even having it at our bedside, while we sleep. The future has become the present. Think about the Smart Phone, and what it can do! Up-dated versions are being created and promoted, even as this article is being composed. The menu of our phone's capabilities escalates daily. Everyone seems to be always on the phone. But there is something the phone cannot do. It cannot replace YOU.

One of the largest growing companies in today's marketplace is Apple. I listened to one commentator recently, who said that the I Phone has become today's "object of worship". Phones are a venerated part of life. They are indeed useful, especially in business. But cell phones are basically machines, cold, sterile, and lifeless.

James Farrell makes this insightful commentary: “Cell phones can make us more connected to distant places but we can also become less connected to wherever we are at the moment.”

(“Cell Phones”, Clergy Journal, Vol. LXXXII, #6, p. 14.)

Laura Pappano writes, “Cell phoning ‘is not an isolated act but a pattern of living that alters the way we relate or don’t relate to the physical spaces we inhabit”.

(“The Connection Gap” by Rutgers University Press, 2001)

Cell Phones shrink distances but make intimate interaction less frequent. How strange that those marvels, meant for communication, can make us also to be “out of touch”. Texting is an empty substitute for our being in the moment with other people, both physically and emotionally.

When God wanted humanity to know of his love, mercy, and will, he did not send a text message, a “Tweet”, or an Email (or did he use any past marvel of communication, which has become obsolete, such as smoke signaling, Morse Code, semaphore, and letter writing). When God wanted to save us, he sent his Son, the divine essence as a human person, “bone of our bone”, “the Word made Flesh” (St. John 1).

Our Savior is not a thing but a person. Jesus is not a concept or bit of atoms or impulses of energy but a real multi-dimensional person. He was born, lived, loved, ate, wept, slept, walked this earth, cradled a child, held a hand, carried a cross, died a real death and physically rose from the grave.

Even now, as he has “ascended into heaven” (The Apostles Creed), he still bears in his sacred body the physical scars of the crucifixion nails in his hands and of the piercing spear in his side. And he will come again, not as a vapor or a disembodied voice but, as he came before, physically to do what he did and does: love each of us, heart, body, and soul.

The Christian faith is not trust in a concept or a theology but in the person – Jesus Christ. As confessional Lutherans, we claim by faith that he is “God with us”, physically, substantially, and sacramentally present with his Body, the Church – “in, with, and under bread and wine.” The Holy Eucharist isn’t a picture or a representation of Christ but his true, tangible body and blood, according to his promise. And, correspondingly, his Church is not an address or a dot on a Goggle Map, but a people, personally in touch in love in relationships with others.

In this coming new year of our Lord’s grace, AD2018, I urge all of Good Shepherd, both leadership and membership, to do less electronic communication and more intimate interacting, meaning more face to face, heart to heart, person to person interrelating. That includes with family, friends and the fellowship of the saints. That takes time but it is worth the investment.

Does that mean getting rid of our phones? No, for we cannot go back in time and they are here to stay. They are amazing. But they are not people replacements. We have just celebrated at Christmas the Incarnation of our Lord. Jesus is Emmanuel, God with us. He is the divine Word, the God who is love, “in the flesh”. The Christian life of faith is equally incarnational. Our Lord’s gift of himself at Bethlehem and in bread and wine inspires the sharing of ourselves, one on one, our lives touching the lives and eternities of others.



*On a “personal note”: I thank everyone
for their kindnesses and generosity this Christmas Season.
A Blessed New Year to all! With love, +Pastor*



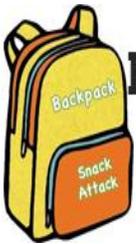
**The Board of Buildings and Grounds
(Eric Roeloffs, Chairperson)**



Thank you! (Rev. Ken Susskraut, Pastor/845-986-3040): In December, Eric Roeloffs, Board Chairperson, did a fantastic job of refurbishing and re-locating the Nave speakers, spending time and creativity to present his work “to the glory of God”, beneficial to our parish’s worship life. Also, he prepared and installed, with helper, Tony Hallman, a new parking lot barrier by the Office entrance, working on a cold and snowy Saturday morning. Richard Bayer, the newest member of the Board of Buildings and Grounds, was equally busy, making a true artisan quality, Narthex case for a needed Difibulator. All members of our Board of Elders have been trained in its use, for the sake of all. Their ministry, supported by the ministry and work of Buildings and Grounds, can save a life.

(Moses said,) “Every skillful one, to whom the Lord has given skill and understanding to know how to do any work in construction of the Sanctuary, shall work in accordance with all that the Lord has commanded.” “And every skillful one, to whom the Lord had given skill, everyone whose heart was stirred, came to do the work.” (Exodus 36)

SOCIAL MINISTRY (Janell Hallik, Chairperson/845-544-1417)



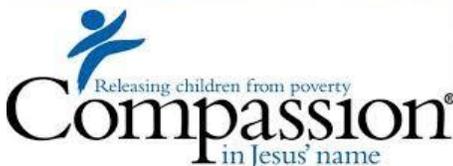
**Backpack
Snack
Attack**

**“Backpack Snack Attack” Program
- Town of Warwick Schools
(Nancy Mauro, Coordinator/845-986-7198)**

During January we will be collecting food for “Backpack Snack Attack”. This is a program that provides food for school children when school is not in session. Food items such as microwavable soups, mac & cheese, puddings, fruit cups, fruit bars, etc. are needed. Please put your donations in the gray cabinet in the Narthex. Thank you for your continued support.



**Compassion International
(Maggie Adams, Coordinator/845-544-2030)**



We will be sponsoring Fenanois Luceno again this year...for his 3rd year with Compassion. It is hard to believe how fast the days and months go by. I want to THANK YOU ALL on behalf of the Board of Social Ministry for your continued support of this ministry opportunity with Compassion International. The Change for a Chance jar and the bottle recycling continues to be a huge success! If you have any questions and are interested in more information about Fenanois and Compassion International please feel free to contact me, Maggie Adams.



**Warwick Ecumenical Food Pantry
(Linda Bayer, Coordinator/845-469-8312)**

We collected 14 bags of groceries for the Warwick Food Pantry in November. Thanks to all that gave food for this program. We will be collecting again in February.

**A Joyful Toyfull Christmas
(Linda Bayer, Coordinator/845-469-8312)**



Many thanks to all who gave toys, which will bring joy to the children served by the Warwick Food Pantry. May you be blessed with joy this Holy Season.

PARISH PLANNING COUNCIL (Linda Ridella, President/845-494-1977)

**Good Shepherd Lutheran Church – Parish Planning Council
(Linda Ridella, President/845-494-1977)**

A note of appreciation to all students, teachers, parents, Pastor and anyone else who was a part of the Children's Christmas Celebration on December 17th. It was a wonderful service and the hard work and practice time that went into making this a special service was evident to all. Thank you for sharing your talents.

Just a reminder, that The Shepherd's Voice can be viewed in "full color" electronically on our Website (www.warwicklutheranchurch.org). If you would like to review future editions of The Voice electronically on our Website and no longer receive the printed newsletter via US Mail, please see the last page of this newsletter. You may elect to "Opt Out" by either completing and returning your election of Website review to the church, or emailing your election to gslc@warwick.net being sure in either case to include your name, phone number and current email address. A monthly email will be sent to you with a link to access the latest edition of The Shepherd's Voice. This is a "Go Green" opportunity to be better stewards of our resources by reducing paper, ink, and copier wear and tear.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION (Susanne Solimando, Chairperson/845-469-8509)

Good Shepherd's Sunday Inter-generational Study (Rev. Ken Susskraut, Pastor/845-986-3040): We are "Looking at the Lectionary", reviewing the readings appointed for each Sunday of the liturgical Church year. Please join us every Sunday from 10:30-11:15AM in the Conference Room. This year ("Series B") centers on The Gospel of St. Mark. Sunday morning sessions will resume on January 14th.



BOARD OF STEWARDSHIP (Stephen Hoverman, Chairperson/845-469-9745)

**Stewardship Financial Report
(Stephen Hoverman, Chairperson/845-986-5279)
January 2018 - Stewardship Financial Report**

Operations through November, 2017

Operating income	\$141,562.80
Operating expense	\$169,371.95
Budgeted expense	\$173,255.07
Deficit	\$27,809.15

Please consider an extra offering for 2017, and mark it "2017 deficit reduction". Thank you.

May God richly bless you in 2018!
Steve Hoverman



**Lutheran World Relief - Equal Exchange Coffees
(Roberta Beany, Coordinator/845-661-3718)**



Good Shepherd promotes the LWR Coffee Project. This is a partnership between LWR and Equal Exchange, which works with partners in 35 countries to help people grow food, improve health, strengthen communities, end conflict, build livelihoods and recover from disasters. This sale is in support of fund-raising for Good Shepherd's "Renovation Fund".



Organic Caffeinated and Decaffeinated Coffees are available on Sundays in the Narthex at \$10.00 a bag. Boxes of 12 single serve cups for sale at \$10.00 a box.

Good Shepherd's Annual Fish Fry
(Maggie Adams, Coordinator/845-544-2030)

SAVE THE DATE FOR OUR

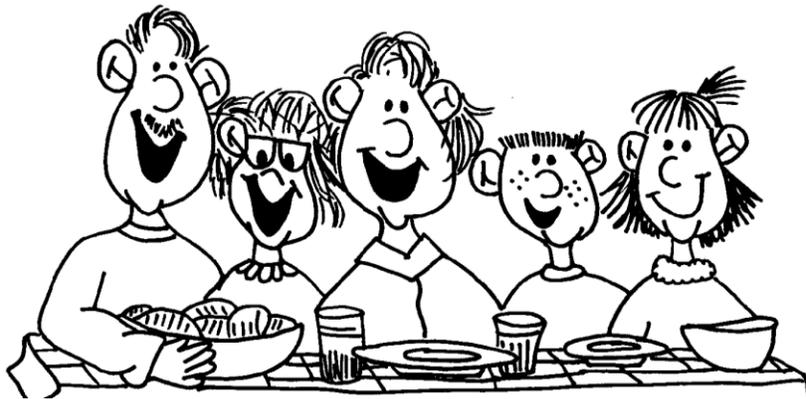


**GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
95 KINGS HIGHWAY, WARWICK, NY 10990**

FRIDAY, MARCH 16TH, 2018

5:00 - 7:00PM

TAKE OUT AFTER 5:30PM ONLY



**Fried Fish (Fresh Cod), Chips (French fries), Home Made Cole Slaw,
Green Beans, Beverage and Desserts**

**(Chicken Nugget Child's entrée are available all evening and
Gluten-Free Fish available during 1st seating, but only with advance notice.)**

\$13.00/Adults; \$12.00/Senior Citizens; \$7.00/Children under 8

ALL TICKETS, INCLUDING "TAKE OUTS", ARE BY RESERVATION ONLY.

Ticket Reservation Deadline - March 9th

FOR TICKETS: 845-986-3040



- | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1-Jan Shirley Brown | 17-Jan Nathaniel Herz |
| 2-Jan Inga Spence | 17-Jan John Thomson |
| 4-Jan Zackary Molini | 18-Jan Erik Augusta |
| 4-Jan John Willemse | 19-Jan Lance Martucci |
| 6-Jan Jeffrey Stroosnyder | 20-Jan Kenneth Schaechinger |
| 7-Jan Claire Garcia | 21-Jan Chase Kohler |
| 10-Jan Jessica Savarese | 25-Jan Nancy Hoverman |
| 11-Jan Jayme Hallik | 25-Jan Kathryn Lindstrom |
| 11-Jan Laura Heidecke | 26-Jan Kim Herz |
| 12-Jan Anthony Hallman | 27-Jan Ryan Stein |
| 13-Jan Sharon Bevacqua | 28-Jan Catherine Paffenroth |
| 13-Jan Erica Ridella | 29-Jan Connor McNamee |
| 16-Jan Donna Cosner | 31-Jan Julia Heeren |
| 16-Jan Roland Paffenroth | |

Jim & Betsy Bowes 21-Jan

Please notify the Parish Office of any changes of addresses, phone numbers, E-mail address; or any additions or corrections in the Birthday and Anniversary listings. Thank you!



**Mrs. Sharon Bevacqua
Administrative Assistant**



GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
95 Kings Highway
PO Box 218
Warwick, NY 10990
“The Shepherd’s Voice”
January, AD 2018

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If you do not wish to receive this monthly Newsletter, please cut out and return your mailing label to the return address shown above or call the Parish Office on 845-986-3040. Thank you.

ELECTION TO OPT OUT OF RECEIVING PRINTED NEWSLETTER VIA US MAIL:

I would like to review future editions of The Shepherd’s Voice through the church’s website, at www.warwicklutheranchurch.org and not receive a printed copy.

Name: _____

Phone #: _____

Current email address: _____

A monthly email will be sent containing the link to view The Shepherd’s Voice.

