# *the LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE Good Shepherd*

# A Reconciling in Christ Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

**~.CONNECTIONS.~**

**January Newsletter 2025**

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**Sunday Service at 9:30am**

**Sunday School is held on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month**

**January 2025**

From your pastor

Dear Members and Friends of the Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd:

It’s January and we stand at the beginning of a new year. I’m including

here a prayer for the beginning of 2025:

*Holy God, out of your great love for the world, your Word became flesh to*

*live among us and to reconcile us to you and one another. Rekindle*

*among us the gift of your Spirit so that we seek to live in unity with all*

*people, breaking down the walls that divide, ending the hostility among us,*

*and proclaiming peace to those who are near and to those who are far*

*away; through Christ Jesus, in whom we all have access to the one Spirit to*

*you, both now and forever. Amen.*

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The beginning of a new year is often a time to make some resolutions for

the coming year. Certainly, as followers of Jesus we are a people who

seek to live in peace with one another, with the creation, and with those we

think of as enemies or opponents. It’s not easy, and honesty would compel

us to admit that we have failed in this, probably more times than we can

remember. But new beginnings are also times for hope and optimism. You may have

found hope and optimism hard to come by this year. Because of sin, our

brokenness, we let the negative stuff hold more power over us than hopeful

things. And yet, while things in our lives change and life is bigger than we are and

throws us stuff we would never want, we belong to a God who is also

bigger than we are. That God is faithful and will stand by the promises God

makes to us in Baptism and Holy Communion, in the word spoken to us

and read by us, the word of God sealed for us in the death and resurrection

of Jesus. His life shows us that while struggles come, they are not the last

word in our relationship with the God who created our lives, just as Good

Friday is not the end of the story of Jesus. Easter comes with good news

and with the vision of how we are claimed, not just for life here and now,

but for life eternally.

Knowing this, it might be a good time to count our blessings, among which

are things like family and community in the church. We might also include

the opportunities we have to be blessings to others, especially those whose

lives are torn by violence, hunger, prejudice, poverty, or close-mindedness.

Because God has called us God’s children, we have this source of hope,

this God of vision and insight, this creator of the whole world and who has

given it into our care as stewards of God’s creation. Take time this January

to discern the blessings of your life. To be honest, if we do not do this

intentionally, we miss out on many good things God sends us.

See you on Sundays.

With hope,,



**2024 Bazaar Report and Thanks!**

This year, once again, our Holiday Artisan Bazaar exceeded all of our expectations! We are truly blessed in so many ways, between the talents and time of so many people. A project this large doesn’t succeed without a true congregational effort. Huge thanks are due to every person who helped in any way, big or small, during the weeks and months of preparation, on the day of the event, and even after the event---too many people to thank individually. It takes every one of you to do this!

The joys of fellowship through sharing our efforts and of service (and outreach) to the local community are every bit as important as the funds we earn. We brought joy to all those who attended while helping them stretch their holiday dollars!! In addition, our net proceeds came in at **$10,001.24***.* Amazing! That amount was distributed as follows: $750.00 to Project Comfort for the LWR projects; $1,000 to the South County Hospital’s Breast Health Center Fund, $1,000 to South County Habitat for Humanity; and the remaining $7,251.24 to our Anderson Hall renovation fund.

Our raffle had more baskets and items this year than ever. Donors include those on the following list, and more! We would like to thank them all, and ask you to patronize these local businesses. When you do, please mention their donation to our bazaar and let them know how much the congregation appreciates their generosity! Besides our generous individual donors, business donors include:

Hair Crew (SC Commons)

Drip Coffee House (East Greenwich)

Belmont

Soaps by Lather, Rinse, & Ribbons

Designs by Dawn

Bayless Photography

Sons of Liberty

Arturo Joe's

Old Mt. Lanes

Mews Tavern

Go Pasta

Ocean Mist

NY Pizza of RI

Contemporary Theater

Hair on Mane

**Again, thank you everyone!**   Gail Eastwood-Stokes & Deb Crary

**Bazaar Thanks & Evaluation Luncheon, Monday Jan 13**

It was fun and helpful last year to get together after the holidays and exchange notes about the bazaar while we still had ideas and feedback to share, so we're doing it again!

On Monday, January 13 (roughly 12 noon to 2pm), anyone who is interested is invited to come to a potluck luncheon in Anderson Hall as a "thank you" as well as to offer thoughts for next year --what worked well, or anything that didn't.

Please bring some food to share, and please bring your own dishes and utensils, to save on clean-up (or plan to wash what you use if choosing to use the church's). We want to keep the "luncheon work" to a minimum!! :-)  Also, please RSVP to either Gail Stokes or Deb Crary, to be counted so you'll have a seat at the table. All are welcome!

**Announcements**

**Sunday School** is held on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month, during worship.

**A sincere thank you to our generous congregation for my staff gift. I am truly blessed to be part of these wonderful people. Karen**

A concert by Musica Dolce will be held here on January 26, beginning at 3pm.

**Ongoing Prayers for:**

*For additions or deletions please e-mail or call the church office.789-7776, or* [*lcgsmail@gmail.com*](mailto:lcgsmail@gmail.com)

Amy Hinkle

Karin Kohl

Traci Purvis

Jessica Maynard

Bobbie Peterson

C. Duncan

Margaret Franks

Kathy Vigness Raposa

Billy Wernquest

Ruth Wernquest

Holly Deutsch

Mary Jane Briggs

Bill Deutsch

Gary Durett

Natalie Schanck

Mike Carty

Barbara Smith

Eero Moisio

Phyllis Farley

Brian Mitchell

Barney

Joyce Pearson

Amy Phillipo

James Meyers

Naomi Sawyer

Karolyn Lee

Liam Varnelis

Josh Peterson

Kathy Lee

Chris Rose

Lisa Ferry  
Ellora Hendrickson

Melvin Platt

KC Christensen

Jan Briggs

Ruth McGuy

Bud Godwin

Lisa Lessman

Taylor Lessman

Joan & Sheldon Pratt

Jerry Paquin

Stanley Larson

Ellen Hedlund

Donald & Bernadine Cunnigen,

Maggie Reichgott

Tucker Maute

Karen Perry

Mark Quinn

Carolyn Hathaway

Betty Hathaway

Tim Diskin

**+LOVED ONES IN THE ARMED FORCES**+ Manny Morales, Michael Bock

Matthew Kankash, Heath O’Neill, Andrew Anderson, Noah Cooper, Dan Berkowitz

 **Jonnycake Market Bring donations to:**

Jonnycake Center for Hope

22 Kersy Rd. Peacedale, RI 02879

**Donation Food List**

**Stock the Market**

If you would like to help us settle into our new home, please stop by and drop off a desired food item for the Jonnycake Market. Donation bins will be on our porch, making it easy to pull up and drop off.

There are a number of healthy items that we would especially like to have on our shelves. Please feel free to share this list with your family, neighbors, and friends and visit [www.jonnycakecenter.org/the-food-pantry/](http://www.jonnycakecenter.org/the-food-pantry/) for more information. **Keep the food coming!** Healthy nonperishable foods, whole grain pasta, organic beans, peanut butter, and some holiday staples are especially welcome.

# January BIRTHDAYS

Wilma Palmaccio 2

George Morrison 3

Scott Teller 14

Phyllis Farley 16

Jean Gallo 18

Margie Bell 22

John Bell 29

Bill Deutsch 30

# *Happy birthday to all! May God bless you with a happy, healthy year.*

**LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD (office # 789-7776)**

# Pastor: The Reverend Dennis Kohl

Minister of Music-Heather Skidds

Office Administrator- Karen Amitrano

# Please contact the church office for any pastoral needs or emergencies

# 2023 CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL:

Eric Taylor Caden Baum

Theresa Duffer David Nunez

John Bell David Lindstrom

Fred Baillargeron

Kris Bacon

**\*COUNCIL OFFICERS: President-**Theresa Duffer**; Vice President-** Fred Baillargeron, **Secretary -**John Bell**, Treasurer-**Eric Taylor

**WORSHIP ASSISTING SCHEDULES**

**January 2025**

**\* Can’t serve** on your assigned date? PLEASE 1) **ask someone to swap dates**, and 2) **notify the church office**.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Jan 5** | **Jan 12** | **Jan 19** | | **Jan 26** | | **Feb 1** |
| PASTOR  ---------------  Assisting Minister | D. Kohl  ------------  F Baillargeron | D. Kohl  ------------  C. Baum | D. Kohl  -----------  M. Bender Lee | | D. Kohl  ------------  K. Bacon | | D. Kohl  --------------  K. Amitrano |
| Lector | K. Bacon | S. Teller | A. Senerchia | | D. Nunez | | F Baillargeron |
| Greeter-Ushers | S. Gaunt/K. Amitrano | B & S Teller | B & B Smith | | R. Passananti/ M. Palmer | | J. Vican |
| Communion Assistant | D. Crary | J. Vican | K. Bacon | | K. Amitrano | | A. Anderson |
| Altar Care | M & G Morrison | A. Senerchia | K. Amitrano | | A. Lessmann | | A. Senerchia |
| Acolyte | A. DiBiasio | A. Baum | S. Clunan |  | |  | |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 2025 | **JANUARY** | | SUNDAY |  |  |  |
|  | CALENDAR YEAR |  | |  |  |  |  |
|  | Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|  | 29 | 30 | 31 | 01 | 02 | 03 | 04 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 05 | 06 | 07 | 08 | 09 | 10 | 11 |
|  | 9:30 Worship Sunday School | Ipm Social Group | 7:30 Peace Group 9:30 quilters |  | 7 pm Choir |  |  |
|  | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
|  | 9:30 Worship | Bazaar Luncheon and Evaluation | 7:30 Peace Group 9:30 quilters |  | 7 pm Choir |  |  |
|  | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
|  | 9:30 Worship Sunday School | Ipm Social Group | 7:30 Peace Group 9:30 quilters |  | 7 pm Choir |  |  |
|  | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | 01 |
|  | 9:30 Worship Musica Dolce Concert 1-5 |  | 7:30 Peace Group 9:30 quilters |  | 7 pm Choir |  |  |
|  | 02 | **03** | 04 | 05 | 06 | 07 | 08 |