

# JANUARY NEWSLETTER

**GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH  
510 ALBANY SHAKER ROAD  
LOUDONVILLE, NY 12211  
518-458-1562**



<b>Office</b>	<b>518-458-1562</b>
<b>Rev. D. Lowell Chilton</b>	<b>518-458-1562</b>
<b>Kathy Flynn</b>	<b>Admin. Assistant</b>
<b>Kevin Wertman</b>	<b>Custodian</b>
<b>Anita Andersen</b>	<b>Music Director</b>
<b><u>Church Council:</u></b>	
<b>Danny Patrick</b>	<b>President</b>
<b>Mike Serge</b>	<b>Vice President</b>
<b>Jeff Emptage</b>	<b>Treasurer</b>
<b>Patti Kopach</b>	<b>Secretary</b>
<b>Atif Dean</b>	
<b>Kathryn Ingalls</b>	
<b>Nancy Layne</b>	
<b>Carol Phelps</b>	
<b>Maryanne Sangiacomo</b>	
<b>Elizabeth Sickler</b>	
<b>Susan Spofford</b>	
<b>Marie Wertman</b>	
<b>Meg Winters</b>	

## **Mission Statement**

“We are a community of God’s faithful people called by Christ to love, welcome, and care for all.”



**Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Contacts**

Kathy Flynn, Admin. Asst. office@gscl.org	518-458-1562	Mon. – Wed. 10-4
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<u>ADMINISTRATION</u>	
Financial Secretary	Marjorie Raymond
Assistant Treasurer	John McGrath
Bldg. Rental Coordinator	Danny Patrick



**Lynn Best  
 Keith Kelly  
 Kathy Ingalls  
 Carolyn Wolfe  
 Marcia Bahan  
 Lou Reiss  
 Carlos Sanchez  
 The Teal Family  
 Betty Cadwallader's Family  
 Alice Ford's Family  
 The Koser Family  
 A Special Intention**



**January Birthdays**

- 1 – Dorothy Wimble
- 5 – Robert Ahl, Robert Benoit, Kennedy Wertman
- 9 - Bailey Churchill
- 11 – Keith Kelly, William Quinn
- 12 – Logan Patrick
- 14 – Lori Meredith, Kinsley Ryan
- 16 – Karen Adams
- 17 – Jeff Emptage
- 23 – Everett Van Sickle
- 26 – Linda Kowalski
- 29 – Heta Miller

## **PASTOR JINNEY'S MESSAGE**



December has undoubtedly demonstrated the ongoing dedication to church, neighbors, and community by the folks of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church. I am so grateful to have been part of this season with GSLC.

The Cookie Walk was the final topping on the church's fundraising activities, raising over \$1600, much of which added to the church's operating budget. (I also believe it easily added to what will remain an undisclosed amount to my waist .... but every mouthful was worth it!)

A memorial service was held for Maryanne Sangiacomo's dear friend, Elizabeth (Betty) Shanholtzer Henze. It was well attended by

those who came to honor her life and included members of GSLC and St. Peter Lutheran Church of Malta.

The season of Advent was celebrated in many ways. The Children's Pageant was a glorious demonstration of the joy of the season. Recognizing the sadness that the holidays can also bring to some, a Worship Service of Blue Christmas was also held. Our own Dave Ferrill delivered a very moving homily. In addition, GSLC was blessed to have Pastor Josh Evans of St. John's Lutheran Church join us in presiding at this meaningful worship service. The Christmas Eve Worship Service was well attended and brought together old and new friends in worship.

The December 31<sup>st</sup> service marked the last day of my relationship with Good Shepherd as Transitional Pastor, as the church enthusiastically anticipates the beginning of Pastor Lowell Chilton's service to the church effective immediately. It is with great sadness that I acknowledge the end of my role as your Transitional Pastor, but with great joy, I recognize that I have come to know, worship with, and work alongside so many of the good people of GSLC. I know we will meet again.

### ***A Prayer for the New Year***

*Creator of all life, help us enter the New Year reverently, aware that you have endowed every creature, plant, person, and habitat with beauty and purpose. May we regard the world with tenderness.*

*May we honor rather than destroy.*

*Let it be so. Amen*

*Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to All!*

Pastor Jinney



## **Mitten Tree**

Thank you to everyone for decorating our **Mitten Tree**! We collected 55 pair of mittens, 22 hats/scarves. All will be given to the Sister Maureen Joyce Center and RISSE.



## **SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS**

Sunday School resumes on January 7th. We are so looking forward to seeing our Sunday School children in 2024.

We do a Bible lesson and craft with the children each week. The number of children is growing and we have so much fun. If you have children, grandchildren or others that would like to attend, please bring them on Sunday mornings.

Thank you,  
Nancy Serge, Nancy Layne & Marie Wertman

## **Don't Forget Our Homebound Members**

Especially during these long winter months, please remember to send cards, notes, and make phone calls to our homebound members.

Marcia Bahan	1 White Fir drive, Loudonville, NY 12211
Lynn Best	4 Knauf Lane, Loudonville, NY 12211
Keith Kelly	52 Old Birch Lane, Albany, NY 12205
Shirley Kroll	1232 Coburg Village Way, Rexford, NY 12148
Lou Reiss	82 Surrey Hill Dr., Latham NY 12110
Dorothy Wimble	38 Dowling Road, Albany, NY 12205
Carolyn Wolfe	119 Rockefeller Rd. Apt. 112, Delmar, NY 12054

## **Outreach and Evangelism**

The Outreach and Evangelism Ministry Team will not be meeting in January. If you're interested in joining this team, we provide many services needed throughout the community and we'd love to have your help. Contact Danny Patrick.

## WELCA News

Happy New Year from the members of the Good Shepherd WELCA group! Our next meeting will be held on **Thursday, January 19 at 7:00 p.m.** at Good Shepherd. Our agenda includes the election of a new Unit Coordinator, Treasurer and Secretary; discussion about and selection of our 2024 theme; calendaring Girls Night Out events and the 2024 Cookie Walk; and any other topic you would like to discuss. All women of Good Shepherd are welcome to attend, and we hope some women from First Lutheran will be in attendance as well. If you have any questions about WELCA, please don't hesitate to reach out to Patti Kopach, current Unit Coordinator at [patti.kopach@yahoo.com](mailto:patti.kopach@yahoo.com). We hope to see you on January 18!



## Breakfast with the Wisemen

The Outreach and Evangelism Ministry Team will be hosting a Free Pancake Breakfast with the Wisemen this Saturday **January 6th** at 9:00 a.m. for everyone. The breakfast is free as we obtained a Thrivent Action Grant to defray the cost of this breakfast. We will be serving pancakes, sausage, fruit, milk and coffee. Gluten free pancakes will also be available.



We are hoping to get the children, adults and families from our community of faith as well as folks from the community. If you and your family are attending, please call Danny Patrick to let him know you are coming. Danny can be reached at (518) 477-5355. We are hoping to get many families together for this breakfast.

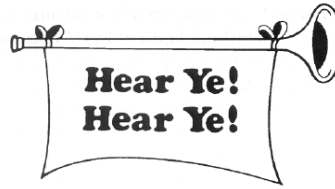
## God's Work Our Hands

Thank you to all that contributed gently used winter coats for needy parents of children at North Colonie schools. The coats were donated in a variety of sizes for men and women.

Susan Spofford also applied for and received a \$250 Thrivent grant to buy new winter jackets for refugee parents whose children attend North Colonie schools. We were able to purchase 8 warm winter jackets- 4 for women, and 4 for men. The refugee children had previously been provided with boots and coats for winter. Jill Brenneman and Susan Spofford worked together on this project.

Thank you for your help!

**Message From Danny Patrick, Council President**  
**Church Council Update**



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**Annual Meeting of the Congregation**

The Annual Meeting of the Congregation of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church will be held on Sunday, January 28, 2023 immediately following the 8:45 worship service. Please plan on coming to review our work and ministries from last year and where we want to go in the new year. You will be able to pick up a copy of the agenda and all of the ministry team reports on Sunday January 21. All reports must be submitted to Kathy Flynn by Friday, January 5, if not sooner. There is a lot of work to get the reports together so the sooner we can all get our reports in the better. We will also be having a potluck brunch following the meeting. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the narthex. Any questions regarding the Annual Meeting please speak to Danny Patrick or any member of the Church Council.



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**Community Food Pantry**

As you may know or not know, Good Shepherd for the past two years has had a food box in the parking lot filled with non-perishable food items for people that are in need of food. People are coming and getting food from the box which is a great thing but we are now at a point that it is sometimes difficult keeping the box filled. The Outreach and Evangelism Ministry team has been overseeing the food box and making sure it is filled with food. Recently, there seems to be more need because it needs to be refilled daily. We need everyone's support in donating food and placing it in the tub in the front hallway for the food box.

Also, another way you could support the food pantry would be putting a monetary donation in a blue envelope that you will find in the narthex which is for designated giving. Just put your name on the blue envelope and put for the Food Pantry. Your support of this food box will be greatly appreciated as we continue this needed and special ministry.

**Guidelines:**

- No glass as accidents happen and we do not want glass in the parking lot
- No liquids as these tend to freeze and will get food in the cabinet
- No ready to eat items - snack bars or candy
- No cleaning products - again they may contaminate food
- Diapers, dry formula, powered milk, toilet paper are always needed. But please do not attach receipts to formula or diapers
- Please check to make sure the food is not spoiled or out of date
- Very few canned good will freeze

**Suggested items include:**

- Dried beans, Canned Beef Stew, Cereal, Chef Boyardee, Crackers, Pasta,
- Pepperoni Slices-sealed, Powered Milk, Rice, Rice A Roni, Canned Salmon,
- Dried or Canned Soup, Spaghetti Sauce, Canned Tuna, Canned Vegetables
- Toilet Paper, Dog and Cat food, Kitty Litter



The Worship  
and Music Corner

The Worship and Music Committee met on December 12th and discussed the following items:

- The Children's Pageant which was held on Dec. 17<sup>th</sup>
- The Christmas Eve service to be held at 3PM
- New Year's Eve service will be at 9:30 am.
- January 7<sup>th</sup> 2024 we start our new worship schedule of Sunday mornings at 8:45 am. Fellowship will follow.
- Join us for the **Wednesday Bible Study 1:00 pm – 2:15 pm** by phone as we study Scripture and grow in God's word. Men and women are invited! Each week we begin in prayer, and then discuss the lessons relating to the upcoming Sunday worship service.

## TECHNOLOGY TEAM REPORT



We continue to strive to make our use of technology as smooth as possible. We continue to learn and improve.

On the Good Shepherd Facebook group, one year ago we had 187 members and now we have 415 members that are following our posts. Please visit the website at [www.gslcl.org](http://www.gslcl.org) where you can watch the Worship services from prior weeks. You can also view the newsletter and upcoming events. Every Sunday our Church service is posted so if you can't make it in person, you can watch the service on Facebook.

Please let us know if you have any suggestions on how we can improve our AV Tech equipment as we move forward in calling a new Pastor.

Respectfully submitted,  
Steve Layne

## Donations to Building Fund

The Building Fund is used for maintenance and repairs of the church building. There are continuing improvements required and funds are always needed to keep the building functioning and up-to-date. Please consider making a donation to this fund. Envelopes for "Designated Gifts" are available in the narthex. Donations to the Building Fund are separate from the annual pledge. All donations are included on the annual contribution statement for tax purposes.

## Financial News

<b>Financial Report for November 2023</b>			
	November	YTD	
Expenses	\$8,657.68	\$106,441.45	
Revenue	\$9,156.45	\$95,484.22	
<u>Surplus +</u> Deficit -	\$498.77	-\$10,957.23	





**ELECTRONIC GIVING IS SO EASY & CONVENIENT!**

Our online giving continues to be available! More and more people are carrying around less cash, but that no longer means you can't make a donation to our congregation. You can go to our website [www.gslcl.org](http://www.gslcl.org) via your computer or phone and make an electronic donation. You can also download the app from the App Store on your phone – tithe.ly. It's secure and easy. Try it out today.

*Donate here to  
support the various  
ministries of Good  
Shepherd Lutheran  
Church*



## **Fundraiser Meeting Announcement for January 2024**

The first meeting of the Fundraising Team for 2024 will be held on **January 9, 2024 at 6:30 PM**. The main focus of this meeting will be the Roast Pork Dinner to be held on January 20, 2024.

We will also discuss future events for the year! Last year was a GREAT year and we hope to be able to meet or beat what we did in 2023!!!

**And as always we need everyone's help and support! We need other ideas and sponsors of events! We are a community of many fine, talented people. Please join us in working and supporting these events as well as any others you can come up with!!!!**

## **January/February Albany Lutherans Together (ALT) Collection**

The Schuyler Inn located in Menands is an emergency housing shelter for families. Many of these families are there as a result of severe financial difficulties or natural disasters (such as fire or flood). They often arrive with nothing but the clothes they are wearing and are in great need. Please consider donating packages of diapers (all sizes), baby wipes, diaper rash ointment, socks for adults, body wash, shampoo, toothpaste, and toothbrushes. Your help would be greatly appreciated.



### **Overflow Homeless Shelter Meals**

Again this year, the Albany Lutherans Together will be preparing meals for the Overflow Homeless Shelter at First Lutheran Church. The meal needs to be prepared for about 15 people and consist of an entree, vegetable or salad and a dessert. The shelter is requiring no fish or pork, and it is not necessary to provide a salad dressing with the salad. It has worked out well when three people prepare a dinner so that no one is doing the entire meal.

A special thanks goes out to our Administrative Assistant Kathy Flynn who provided the meal for December. Out of the meals left for this shelter season we just need volunteers for the meal on April 20, 2024. If you could help with this meal, please speak with Danny Patrick and he can be reached at (518) 477-5355. As always thank you for your support of this special ministry.

### **Thrivent Grants**

The many outreach projects of our congregation are made possible in large part by grants from Thrivent Financial. Every Thrivent member is eligible to apply for two \$250.00 Action Team grants per year. These are easy to apply for, and if you need help, please ask Danny Patrick.

### **American Red Cross Blood Drive**



Thank you to all of the donors from Good Shepherd and our surrounding community for our successful Blood Drives in April and October 2023. Blood has no substitute making blood drives essential for patients needing any of these blood products. Patients are extremely thankful to anyone willing to donate the gift of life for their healing.

Good Shepherd's next blood drive will be **Wednesday, April 10, 2024**. Thank you to all our faithful Good Shepherd and community donors. Each donor is able to benefit 2-3 patients.

Carol Phelps, Coordinator

## Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

The Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper will be on **Tuesday, February 13th from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.** We will be serving pancakes, sausage, apple sauce, orange juice, milk, and coffee. The cost will be \$7 for adults, \$4 for children 5-12, and under 5 free.



A portion of the proceeds will be going to the ELCA Hunger Appeal to feed hungry folks around the world. It is estimated that more than 820 million people- that's about 11 percent of the people in our world are hungry.

If you can help out in any way with this dinner, please speak to Danny Patrick and he can be reached at (518) 477-5355. See you at the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper!



## Souper Bowl Sunday

This year we will be collecting cans of soup for Souper Bowl Sunday which will be on February 11th. If you would like to, you are welcome to bring in cans of soup on Sunday February 4th. We will have a table set up in the narthex (front hallway) with the names of the teams that will be playing in this year's Super Bowl and you can place your cans of soup behind the team that you like and that you think will win.

The soup will be going into our Little Pantry which is in our parking lot. The need for soup and food is great and will really be appreciated. Thank you for your anticipated support of this community ministry.



**Thank you Laura Szesnat for providing the beautiful poinsettias from Constantine's this year. They were magnificent!**

**We would be remiss if we did not thank Laura and Constantine's for all they do for Good Shepherd all year round. So many donations for every season there are too many to count!**  
**Our heartfelt appreciation from all of us.**



*The poinsettias in the sanctuary are in memory of:*

- Jack and Jane Ludwin for parents John & Mildred Konecnik and John & Gladys Ludwin
- Bill and Chris Wiegert for Bill & Joyce Wiegert, Ed & Catherine Goehring
  - Bertie Cole for her loved ones
    - Kathy Ingalls for brother, Jim Ingalls
    - Dick Walker for his wife, Maralyn Walker
    - Dave Ferrill for his wife, Stephanie Ferrill
  - Keith and Susan Kelly for Mary and Frank Kelly
- Steve and Nancy Layne for Bud & Edna Layne, Walt & Grace Wajda
  - Mike and Nancy Serge for Esther Marchand
- Wiegert Family for B&M Reittinger, N Robinson, S&D McLaughlin, B Campbell, Gepfert Family, E&A Blendell

*In honor of:*

- Paul and Susan Spofford for their children and grandchildren
  - Carol and Carl Phelps to the glory of God
  - Bertie Cole for her children
- Atif & Kiran Dean for their beloved father, Sajid Hamid
  - Vince and Laurie Pasqualino for their loved ones
- Kathy Ingalls for the Ingalls, Heitamm & Campbell families
  - The Wiegert Family for Henry and Barbara Gepfert
    - Robert and Judy Ahl for the Ahl Family
    - Mike and Nancy Serge for Caroline Serge
      - Dave Ferrill for his grandchildren
  - Keith and Susan Kelly for Jeff and Barbara Emptage
  - Mark and Kathy Silo for their family and friends

**IMPORTANT!!**  
**FEBRUARY 2023 Newsletter Deadline:**  
**Thursday, January 25th**

# Thank You

\*Dear Friends,

Thank you for your generous support of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Interfaith Scholarship! Last year, the scholarship committee awarded 5 students \$4,000 each. Your gift matters. It has a long-term effect on young people's lives.

Sincerely,

Rev. Antonio Booth

\*Dear Friends,

Thank you for your support and friendship, as well as your generous Christmas gift. I hope each and every one of you is blessed many times over during 2024.

Kathy Flynn

\*Thank you so much for the wonderful donation to the Veterans Miracle Center. God bless you for supporting our mission to serve veterans in need.

\*Thank you for the money gift recognizing my contributions as organist and leadership as music director. Very generous and most appreciated. I have decided to utilize a portion to support St. Jude.

Anita Andersen

\*Dear Good Shepherd Members,

Thank you for your generous contribution of \$300 to RISSE. Every dollar counts and we truly appreciate your commitment to welcoming the newest neighbors to our community.

Sincerely,

David Butterworth, Exec. Director

\*On behalf of Catholic Charities Community Maternity Services, I want to extend a heartfelt thanks to you and the women of the ELCA Unit at Good Shepherd for sharing a portion of the proceeds from your recent Cookie Walk with our clients. Thank you for choosing to support our Mission. Your partnership is what sustains our work and for that we are eternally grateful.

Jackie Buff-Rogers, Exec. Director



**THOSE WHO SERVE 1/7**

Opener	Mike Serge
Greeter	Nancy Serge
Usher	Mike Serge
Lay Reader	Mike Serge
Communion Assistant	Nancy Serge
AV Tech	Steve Layne
Closer	Atif Dean

**THOSE WHO SERVE 1/14**

Opener	Kathy Ingalls
Greeter	Kathy Ingalls
Usher	Danny Patrick
Lay Reader	Betty Suarez
Communion Assistant	Dick Walker
AV Tech	Elizabeth Strohbeck
Closer	Danny Patrick

**THOSE WHO SERVE 1/21**

Opener	Steve Layne
Greeter	Betty Suarez
Usher	Mark Silo
Lay Reader	Atif Dean
Communion Assistant	Kiran Dean
AV Tech	Marie Wertman
Closer	Marie Wertman

**THOSE WHO SERVE 1/28**

Opener	Mike Serge
Greeter	Nancy Serge
Usher	Paul Spofford
Lay Reader	Susan Spofford
Communion Assistant	Kathy Silo
AV Tech	Maryanne Sangiacomo
Closer	Rob Beach



### **Fellowship after Worship**

Thank you to all who signed up to host our gatherings following worship.

Please consider providing coffee and some small bite-sized snack by signing up on the chart right outside of the fellowship hall for the rest of the year. What a great time to meet each other and chat. Questions? Contact Meg Winters, Fellowship Coordinator at 518-860-4594.

### **ALTAR GUILD**

We want to thank those of you who have stepped up to take over some of Bertie's many responsibilities as she passes the baton into your capable hands. Much help is needed to assist in getting the sanctuary prepared each week for worship. And also in cleaning up after worship – all of which are very important tasks. We'd love to have more help! Your assistance is always appreciated.

### **Altar Flowers**

**Please be sure to sign up to honor or remember your loved ones.**



**It's hard to believe but it's already time to prepare the 2023 Annual Report. Please send in your committee annual reports as soon as possible with the deadline being Friday, January 5<sup>th</sup>.**



~ JANUARY 2024 ~						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
9:30am WORSHIP	1 New Year's Day	2 12:30pm Colonie Srs.	3 1 pm Bible Study	4 12-3 Colonie Srs (BR) 4pm Drama Kids	5 9:30 Colonie Srs. (BR)	6 9am Breakfast with the Wisemen
7 8:45 WORSHIP	8 6:30pm Church Council	9 12:30 Colonie Srs. 6:30 Fund Raising Team	10 1 pm Bible Study	11 12-3 Colonie Srs (BR) 4pm Drama Kids	12 9:30 Colonie Srs. 6 pm Dance Group	13
14 8:45 WORSHIP	15 7 pm Worship & Music Team	16 12:30 Colonie Srs.	17 1 pm Bible Study	18 12-3 Colonie Srs (BR) 4pm Drama Kids  6:30pm WELCA	19 9:30 Colonie Srs. (BR)	20  4-6PM PANCAKE SUPPER
8:45 WORSHIP	22	23 12:30 Colonie Srs.	24 9:00 Colonie Srs Exec. Board 1 pm Bible Study	25 12-3 Colonie Srs FH 4pm Drama Kids	26 9:30 Colonie Srs. FH  6pm Dance Group	27  1
28 8:45 Worship 9:45 ANNUAL MEETING FELLOWSHIP TO FOLLOW	29	30 12:30 Colonie Srs.	31 9AM Colonie Srs Exec Bd  7PM Property Team			