



# May-June 2025

A Newsletter of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Loudonville, NY

CROP WALK + BLOOD DRIVE + YARD SALE + CAPITAL PRIDE + ALT SUNDAYS



Thanks to all who joined us for the **Great Vigil of Easter with ALT churches** on Saturday, April 19, at 7 pm at Good Shepherd. We lit the new fire, heard of God's saving acts throughout time, celebrated the first communion of Easter, and concluded with a festive dessert reception. See more pictures on our [Facebook page](#).



*"We are a community of God's faithful people  
called by Christ to love, welcome, and care for all."*

510 Albany Shaker Road  
Loudonville, NY 12211  
[www.gslcl.org](http://www.gslcl.org) + 518-458-1562



## A Note from Your Pastor



*Remember the hope you have in God: hope that is the unquiet heart that contradicts the present; hope that moves you out of the confines of death and tombs of the past and moves you into God's future, a future of abundant love, boundless grace, and inclusion, respect, and dignity for all people, and all creation. ~ Pastor Chilton's Easter Message*

Dear church,

Fred Kaan's excellent hymn "Let us talents and tongues employ" (ELW #674) was published in 1975 and entered ELCA worship books in *With One Voice*, the blue hymnal supplement published in 1995. The refrain, "Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again, pass the Word around: loaves abound," especially evokes for me the hope I have in Christ, the abundant grace of God's love and hope that groans against the oppression of the world. When I feel especially overwhelmed by the powers that conspire against God, when I struggle to remember the hope I have in Christ, the refrain of the hymn comes to me, and I can breathe again and I'm moved into action.

Though they were moved into action by the resurrection, during the first Eastertide, from the day of the resurrection to the day of Pentecost, the disciples prepared. They were sent to be witnesses and evangelists, yes, but they didn't rush out there unprepared. They encountered the living Christ. They prayed together. They chose Matthias to join the twelve, filling out the central leadership of their mission. They got ready to go and make disciples, teaching and baptizing. They took the time for the hope in Christ that struggles against the unfulfilled present to dwell in their hearts and move them to action for God's future. They prepared for the mission we all share: **giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.**

This Eastertide, let us prepare. Let us remember the hope we have in Christ. Let us encounter the risen Christ in our midst. Let us notice where the world groans for relief and hope. Let us prepare to step boldly into God's future, sure of the hope we have in Christ. Hope that contradicts the present and moves us to advocate for immigrants, to feed the hungry and house the homeless, to preach the good news of abundant grace always, and if necessary to use words (to paraphrase St. Francis of Assisi). Let us sing for joy and pass the Word around.

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Amen.

The Rev. D. Lowell Chilton, Pastor  
[pastor@gslcl.org](mailto:pastor@gslcl.org) + 518-285-0441 (cell)



## Church Leaders

## Pastor and Staff

The Rev. D. Lowell Chilton, *Pastor*  
[pastor@gslcl.org](mailto:pastor@gslcl.org)  
 cell: 518-285-0441  
 Kevin Wertman, *Custodian*

## 2025 Church Council

Danny Patrick, *President*  
 Mike Serge, *Vice President*  
 Meg Winters, *Secretary*  
 Jeff Emptage, *Treasurer*  
 Mark Brenneman  
 Patti Kopach  
 Susan Spofford  
 Kathy Westerholt  
 Michelle Wiegert  
 Meg Winters

## Administration

Marjorie Raymond, *Financial Secy.*  
 Vince Pasqualino, *Asst. Treasurer*  
 Danny Patrick, *Building Use Coord.*



Thanks to all who attended and helped with our Pancake Supper on Shrove Tuesday, March 4.



## Good Shepherd Sunday Celebrated on May 11

The Fourth Sunday of Easter is always Good Shepherd Sunday in the lectionary. Because April 16, Good Shepherd's anniversary date, sometimes falls during the Holy Week, and since the lectionary gives us a great day to mark annually as Good Shepherd Sunday, at April's Council meeting **we decided to start treating the Fourth Sunday of Easter as the congregation anniversary day. Please join us on May 11.** This year we mark 64 years of the congregation. We'll sing "Good Shepherd, You Have Been Our Faithful Guide," a hymn commissioned for the 50th Anniversary in 2011, and we'll give thanks for the history and look to the future in the liturgy. We will also have an elevated fellowship hour after worship. Be sure to join us!



## Rededication of the Sanctuary Brass on May 18

Our processional cross and candlesticks were really showing some wear and tear, so this winter we sent them off to F. C. Ziegler Co. in Oklahoma to be refurbished. They are back and look amazing. **On May 18 we will rededicate the cross and candlesticks in memory of Carol Phelps.** Carol was a leader of our Worship and Music Ministry Team for many years before her death last June. Special thanks to Paul Spofford for handling the disassembly of the pieces, shipping them to OK, and reassembling them, and to Mike Serge for assisting with the reassembly. Big thank you to F. C. Ziegler's Liturgical Design and Restoration team for their excellent work. **Photo Below: Our sanctuary brass was back in time for Holy Week and it looks great. Come see for yourself!**



## Reconciling in Christ Sunday on June 1

**Join us Sunday, June 1, as we celebrate our ongoing commitment to God's expansive welcome as a Reconciling in Christ Congregation.** A special offering will be collected to support the mission and ministry of ReconcilingWorks.

Since 1974, ReconcilingWorks: Lutherans for Full Participation has advocated for the full welcome, inclusion, and equity of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex, and asexual/aromantic (LGBTQIA+) Lutherans in all aspects of the life of their Church, congregations, and community. **To learn more, visit [reconcilingworks.org](http://reconcilingworks.org).**



## Pentecost Sunday will be on June 8: Wear Flame Colors!

### Pentecost Sunday will be June 8.

The liturgical color of the day is **RED** and the Holy Spirit is often symbolized by fire, so **we invite you to wear red, orange, yellow, or all of the above!** Let's have the room feel on fire like our hearts feel with Christ's love burning in us and sending us out to the world.



## To Carry in Your Heart

**"Beloved, you are queer-fully and wonderfully made in a body and spirit that is cherished and loved by the Divine of all creation. You are a gift to your neighbor, community, church. Celebrate your holy wholeness!"**

~ Posted by  
**ReconcilingWorks**

## Join Us to Discuss *The Invitational Christian*

The Outreach & Evangelism Team is excited to start a new series, reading and discussing *The Invitational Christian*. **We will meet at 10:05 am in the Blue Room and via Zoom these Sundays:**

May 4	Chapter 2
May 18	Chapter 3
June 1	Chapter 4
June 8	Chapter 5
June 15	Chapter 6
June 29	Chapters 7 & 8

**From the publisher:** All across North America, people of faith gather for worship and to experience community. When it goes well, their relationships with each other and God are enhanced. But all too often time together relies on chit-chat and doesn't go as deep as it could. This book will give readers an easy to follow look at how the biblical story grounds our stories as God's people. It will help people tell their stories and be better at listening to each other's stories. Ultimately, the goal is to form deeper story communities where people share deeply and faith is nurtured. Written in a clear and concise way, each chapter focuses on one aspect of being a story telling and story listening community. The end of each chapter has Bible readings, discussion questions and prayers to make this a perfect resource for church boards, small groups, and anyone who wants to get started. A final section gives all sorts of tips and tactics that you can use to enhance storytelling in your congregation.

All copies we ordered are claimed! **Get your copy at [invitationalchristian.com](http://invitationalchristian.com) or grab an eBook version on [Kindle](#)** (included in KindleUnlimited) and join the discussion!

## NEW! Join us for ALT: Sundays Together! First One to Be Held on June 22 at St. John's

What a joy it was to worship together this Lent and Easter! Each week in Lent, we gathered from all four of our congregations for supper and evening prayer, sharing the Christian life with each other across congregations. On Holy Saturday, for the second year in a row, all four of our congregations came together for the Great Vigil of Easter. We sang together. We prayed together. We experienced the profundity of heavy rain arriving in the middle of Karen Lapierre reading the prophet Isaiah's words about God bringing water to the thirsty. We toasted the risen Christ together.

**To keep this energy and collaboration going and not wait until Advent to worship together again, we're going to try an experiment this year:** four Sundays, between now and next March, on which all four congregations worship together on Sunday morning. These are going to be normal Sundays, avoiding high festivals, Advent, and Lent.

We're not juggling times and scheduling worship leaders from all the churches. The plan is simply this: about once a quarter, all four congregations will worship together at one congregation's location and time, and in that congregation's normal way of worshipping.

**The first ALT: Sunday Together is June 22. On this day, we will all join St. John's for worship at 9:30 am (303 Sand Creek Road, Albany).** First, Good Shepherd, and Holy Spirit won't have worship at their building that day, and all the pastors will be at St. John's, with everyone else. **Mark your calendars now and plan to join us for our future dates:**

September 21 at Good Shepherd  
January 4 at Holy Spirit  
March 1 at First Lutheran

**We have such great worship together, let's keep that going on Sundays Together and keep growing and walking in faith as Albany Lutherans Together!**



## Sundays Together

First + Good Shepherd + Holy Spirit + St. John's

**Four Congregations  
One Sunday Service  
Four Times A Year**



## Senior Appreciation Luncheon on May 2

**Good Shepherd will host a Senior Appreciation Luncheon on Friday, May 2, at noon.** This is a way to show appreciation for seniors who play cards at Good Shepherd, as well as the Colonie Seniors Board as they support many of our activities and bring food and make monetary donations to our Little Food Pantry. This was one of the goals set by Council at its February retreat, and we are happy to have an opportunity to celebrate the seniors in our community!



## Sunday School to be Held on May 4, 11 & 18

May brings forth the flowers and some exciting Bible adventures! **Sunday School classes will be held May 4, May 11 & May 18.** May 18 will be the last class of the season as we move towards the end of the school year and break for summer. It has been an enjoyable year with the children and we thank you all for the support in making Sunday School a fun-filled learning experience of God's word.

~ Marie Wertman & Nancy Serge



## Community Yard Sale on Saturday, May 31

**A Community Yard Sale at Good Shepherd is planned for Saturday, May 31, 9 am-2 pm.** (No early birds, please.)

Vendor space is \$20 and includes 2 parking spaces. No CD's, DVD's or electronics please! **Suggested items include:** Furniture, Home Decor, Clocks, Lamps, Personal Care, Baskets, Handbags, Luggage, Pet Supplies, Crafts and Sewing Materials, Lawn & Garden, Tools, Auto Accessories.

**A sign-up sheet will be posted in the narthex. Items can be dropped off in the Library beginning Thursday, May 1.**

**Calling all Volunteers!** We need lots of helpful hands. Anyone interested in sharing ideas or (hopefully) interested in joining the Yard Sale Team is welcome.

**Questions?** Contact Michelle Wiegert at [michwiegert@gmail.com](mailto:michwiegert@gmail.com) or 518-694-6448.



## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

### May Birthdays

May 6	Danny Patrick
May 7	Betty Suarez
May 10	Nancy Layne
May 12	Evelyn Burgos
May 12	Susan Spofford
May 21	Paul Spofford
May 23	Richard Walker
May 29	Mary Long



### June Birthdays

June 9	Emmie Knobloch
June 11	Susan Brant
June 11	Vince Pasqualino
June 11	Meg Winters
June 15	Kathy Crouse
June 16	Elizabeth Stroheck
June 18	Stephanie Conklin
June 19	Lynn Best
June 24	Kathy Silo
June 28	Cliff Brant

## Thanks, David Vredenberg!

**On Sunday, April 6, we thanked David Vredenberg for his time with us and celebrated his gift of music ministry.** David had served in an interim role while we continue to search for a permanent Music Director and Organist. We have been blessed by your many talents, David! Good Shepherd thanks you!



## Musical Celebration at GS in Glenville on May 3

**Join us for a Musical Celebration: 70 years of Ministry and 50 years of the 1975 Schlicker Pipe Organ on Saturday, May 3 at 7 pm at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 547 Saratoga Rd., Glenville.**

This special event will feature Organist Curtis Funk and Mezzo Soprano Ann Marie Adamick. Curtis Funk is a retired choir director/organist from Good Shepherd Lutheran, First Reformed of Schenectady, Trinity Methodist and other local churches. He is also the former Artistic Director of the Octavo Singers and the Fort Orange Club Singers. Curtis was a public school music teacher for 10 years on Long Island and in Cobleskill. His repertoire at the concert will include works by Buxtehude, Pachelbel, Rimsky-Korsakov and others. He will be joined by local mezzo soprano Ann Marie Adamick.



*"Music is the art of the prophets and the gift of God."*

*"Next to the Word of God, the noble art of music is the greatest treasure in the world."*

*~ Both by Martin Luther*

## CROP Hunger Walk at St. Vincent on May 4

**The 45th Annual John U. Miller Memorial CROP Hunger Walk will be held on Sunday, May 4.**

Please note it will start and end at a new location: St. Vincent de Paul Church, 900 Madison Ave., Albany.

**Registration begins at 1:30 pm.**

(One hour later than in the past.)

Music is in the sanctuary until Opening Ceremonies at 2:15 pm, with the official start of the walk at 2:30 pm. You have a choice of two routes: a two and a quarter mile loop with a rest stop at Blessed Sacrament Church on Central Ave., and the shorter Golden Mile. Refreshments will be available at St. Vincent's after the Walk.

In 2024, the CROP walk raised \$102,616. Of that, a total of \$25,654 was distributed to 25 food pantries and soup kitchens in the county of Albany, NY, and to the Food Pantry in Rensselaer county.

**In 2025, the CROP Hunger Walk is aiming to raise \$104,500.**

Please contact Atif Dean at 518-225-2832 for more info or to enroll for the Walk. You may visit [crophungerwalk.org/albanyny](http://crophungerwalk.org/albanyny) to register to walk on your own or with someone. The Facebook page is [CapareaCROPHungerWalks](https://www.facebook.com/CapareaCROPHungerWalks).



## ORLC Celebrates 100th Anniversary on May 17

**Our Redeemer Lutheran Church in Scotia will celebrate its 100th anniversary on Saturday, May 17, and all are invited!**

Join us from 10 am-Noon at Scotia Cinema to view a movie, "100 Years – A Remembrance." No ticket required; this is free of charge.

After the movie, join us from 12:30-3:00 pm for a buffet luncheon, a fun program and music at The Edison Downtown Banquet Room (132 N. Broadway, Schenectady). Free parking is available next to the venue. Cost is \$30 per person. (Make checks payable to ORLC & note it's for the 100th Anniversary Luncheon.) The luncheon will consist of: soup, salad, chicken bruschetta, roasted potatoes, vegetable, beverage and dessert. Ticket is required.

We would love everyone to attend, so let us know if you need help with the expense. Please also let us know if you would like to donate toward the 100th Anniversary costs.

**Call their church office at 518-393-5031 or contact Mary Rainey or Cindy Holman to reserve your luncheon spot today!**



**Celebrate the 100th Anniversary of Our Redeemer Lutheran Church in Scotia!**



## Fellowship Hosts Needed Following Worship

Our fellowship gathering following worship each week is a great time to meet and chat with your friends, families, and fellow congregants. **Please sign up to provide a snack on a Sunday that is convenient for you.** If you need more info, contact Meg Winters at [megwint@gmail.com](mailto:megwint@gmail.com). This is such a simple, welcoming way to bring others together and encourage them to linger at church. **This seemingly “small” role has a BIG impact!**



## Altar Flowers: Sponsors Are Needed

**Please sign up to dedicate the altar flowers in memory of, or in honor of, a loved one or special occasion.** There are two altar arrangements each Sunday, each one costing \$18. Simply sign up on the flower chart located in the narthex. Questions? Contact Flower Coordinator Laurie Pasqualino at [lauriepasqualino@gmail.com](mailto:lauriepasqualino@gmail.com). This really is the perfect way to commemorate and decorate at the same time!



## Some “Notes” about Music Director Updates

We are pleased to welcome **Susan Sady** as a Guest Organist in May and June. **Anita Andersen**, our former Music Director, will be back for some of June as well. **We continue to seek a permanent Music Director and Organist to lead our worship.** Please contact us if you know anyone who might be interested, or have them reach out to us directly. Music is such an important part of our ministry here at Good Shepherd.



## Remember in Prayer

**Always keep in prayer our friends who are Shut-Ins:**

- Lynn Best
- Shirley Kroll
- Lou Reiss
- Carolyn Wolfe
- Dorothy Wimble
- Kirsten Anderson



**Please keep these people in your prayers:**

- Lynn Best
- Carolyn Wolfe
- Lou Reiss
- The Family of Dr. Mark Osborn and the staff of the St. Peter's Family Health Clinic on Pearl St.
- Arnold Seim and the family of Wilma Seim
- The family of Jean Kaercher



## A Heartfelt Thank You!

Thank you to everyone who worked behind the scenes for **Holy Week worship services and fellowship gatherings.**

Thank you to everyone who performs **kindnesses**, never knowing the impact they have.

“Even the smallest act of caring for another person is like a drop of water – it will make ripples throughout the entire pond.”

~ J. Matteo



## Come Serve in Worship!

If you've ever considered being a part of the team that makes worship happen at Good Shepherd, let us know. **It's a rewarding way to shine your light in our congregation!**



## ALT Offerings: May/June: "Feed Refugee Families"

Thank you for your generous giving for Global Refuge during Lent and Easter! **In May and June, Albany Lutherans Together is supporting the Upstate New York Synod Hunger Team's "Feed Refugee Families" appeal for ELCA World Hunger.** Donations may be made through Good Shepherd as usual. Thank you for your generosity in supporting this vital ministry of our church to provide sustainable solutions that get at the root causes of hunger and poverty in our communities and around the world. To learn more about Upstate New York Synod's Hunger Justice, click [HERE](#).

## Little Food Pantry has a Big Impact on Others

**Please be a blessing to neighbors in need!** The Little Pantry helps with food insecurity in our community by filling it with non-perishable food items for people who are in need of food. We fill this food box on a DAILY basis, so you know there are many folks who are in need of food for themselves and their family.

### These are greatly needed items:

- |               |                   |
|---------------|-------------------|
| • Rice        | • Canned Tuna     |
| • Pasta       | • Canned Salmon   |
| • Cereal      | • Canned Stew     |
| • Crackers    | • Chef Boyardee   |
| • Boxed Milk  | • Spaghetti Sauce |
| • Rice A Roni | • Toilet Paper    |
| • Dried Beans | • Dog Food        |
| • Dried Soup  | • Cat Food        |
| • Canned Soup | • Kitty Litter    |

## Overflow Homeless Shelter Meals: Thank You!

**The Overflow Homeless Shelter closed for the end of this season on May 1.** Shelter Director Pam Bullock and the staff would like to thank everyone who has provided meals since they opened their new site February 3 at The First Church in Albany at 110 N. Pearl Street in downtown Albany near the Palace Theatre. A special thanks to Nancy and Steve Layne who provided the meal on April 1. We did one more meal on April 29; special thanks to Kathy and Mark Silo who prepared that meal. Many thanks to everyone who has made meals and brought in items for the shelter and supported this special ministry over the years! You are all a blessing.



"It is our belief that all people, regardless of a person's circumstances and behaviors, have a human right to obtain shelter from deadly weather and dangerous conditions on the streets."

~ Emergency Homeless Overflow Shelter at The First Church in Albany

## FUNDRAISING EVENTS!

Mark your calendars for our fundraisers! To sponsor an event, please contact Steve or Nancy Layne at [slayne0320@gmail.com](mailto:slayne0320@gmail.com) or 518-727-1410.

### Special Events:

**Community Yard Sale** • Saturday, May 31 • 9 am-2 pm  
**Berry Festival** • Saturday, July 12 • 4-6 pm  
**Election Day Bake Sale** • Tuesday, November 4 • 9 am until Sold Out  
**Holiday Boutique** • Saturday, November 22 • 9 am-2 pm  
**Cookie Walk** • Saturday, December 13 • 9 am-11 am or until Sold Out  
*(Cookie Walk sponsored by WECLA)*

### Ongoing Events:

**Clynk Can Collection**  
**Hoffman's Car Wash Tickets:**  
 Order your tickets online [HERE](#)



## Save the Date!

**Berry Festival**  
**Saturday,**  
**July 12**  
**4-6 pm**



## Save the Date!

**Holiday Boutique**  
**November 22**  
**9 am to 2 pm**

(Saturday before Thanksgiving)





## Please Donate at Our Blood Drive on May 7

**Good Shepherd's American Red Cross Blood Drive will be held on Wednesday, May 7, from 1:30-5:30 pm.** Currently the Red Cross has a limited blood supply, so we encourage participation from as many donors as possible. **NEW: If you help save a life in May, the Red Cross will say thanks with a \$20 e-gift card! You'll also be entered for a chance to win a U.S. trip of your choice for you and a guest!**

Anyone 18 years of age or older in good health is eligible to donate. 17-year-olds with parental permission are also eligible. To save time, RapidPass can be completed on your phone or computer the day of donation before coming; see info below. If you have questions or wish to sign up for the drive, contact Jeannette Harting at 518-869-0336.



## Blood Drive: Complete RapidPass to Save Time

Want to save time on May 7, the day of your blood donation? **Expedite your donation by using your mobile device to scan the QR code at right to complete your RapidPass and save 15 minutes.** Or, you can visit [RedCrossBlood.org/rapidpass](http://RedCrossBlood.org/rapidpass). Either way, you'll be saving lives ... in no (or less) time at all!

## A Message from Outreach and Evangelism Ministry Team

The Outreach and Evangelism Ministry Team, like all of our other ministry teams, is comprised of many dedicated and faithful members who put so much time and energy into these committees. Bertie Cole, who has been a part of Outreach and Evangelism for the past 19 years, is resigning from the team but will stay involved with special activities like the Berry Festival and applying for Thrivent Action Grants for ministry projects. We cannot thank Bertie enough for all of her help and dedication to this team and for all that she does for our community of faith.

**We are making an appeal to you for your consideration to join the Outreach and Evangelism Ministry Team.** We need more members and help with shepherding in many of the team's activities throughout the year. *(Continued in next column.)*

We know so many of you are involved with other teams and things here at Good Shepherd, and sometimes it is hard to think about putting one more thing on your plate. We used to meet on a monthly basis and now we are meeting around every other month, which reduces the number of meetings.

**A couple of options might be to be a member of this team or to just help with different activities.**

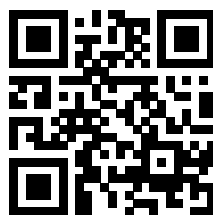
These can be events like the Berry Festival, Halloween Party, Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, or it can be helping to oversee an informational table at Gay Pride, which is coming up on June 8. (See article, page 11.)

**Many people do help with the activities, but what might further help is for people to take a more active role in helping to plan the events.**

Whatever amount of help you can lend will be greatly appreciated. If you have any questions about what this team does or want to be involved, please speak to Pastor or any member of our team: Colleen Ward, Patti Kopach, Beth Sickler, and Danny Patrick. Thank you for considering to be a part of this special ministry team!



**Scan to schedule your appointment**



**Scan for Rapid Pass**



**"Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they just have the heart." ~ Elizabeth Andrew**

## Book Discussion: *How We Learn to Be Brave* Join us Mondays at 7 pm via Zoom: May 5-26

On January 21, 2025, many Americans were introduced to the Rt. Rev. Mariann Edgar Budde, bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Washington, by way of her sermon at the inaugural prayer service at the National Cathedral. In her sermon, Bishop Budde addressed the president directly imploring him “to have mercy on the people in our country who are scared now,” from those who are part of the LGBTQ+ community to immigrants and refugees.

For Bishop Budde, this moment was the culmination of a lifetime spent thinking about those pivot points when we’re called on to push past our fears and act with strength. **In her book she teaches us that being brave is not a singular occurrence; it’s a journey that we can choose to undertake every day.**

*How We Learn to Be Brave* is an inspirational guide to the key junctures in life that, if navigated with faith and discernment, pave the way for us to become our most courageous selves – providing much-needed fortitude and insight to anyone searching for answers in uncertain times.

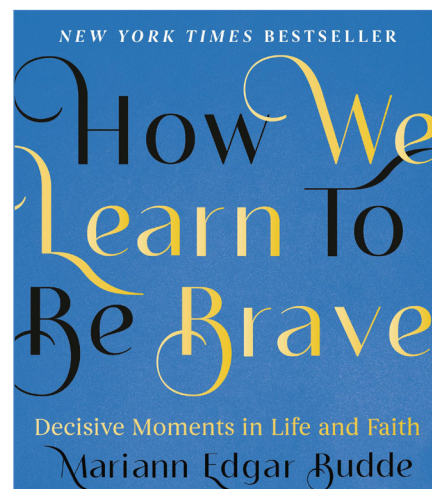
**Join St. John’s on Monday evenings at 7:00 pm via Zoom at [stjohnsalbany.org/zoom](https://stjohnsalbany.org/zoom) as we delve into this book:**

- May 5: Intro-Chapter 1
- May 12: Chapter 2-3
- May 19: Chapter 4-5
- May 26: Chapter 6-Epilogue

Our last session is on Memorial Day. We’ll discuss this on May 5.

Each night we will also end with a short service of compline (night prayer) following our discussion, wrapping up by 8:30 pm.

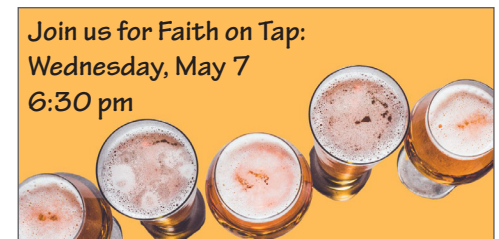
**Purchase the book online [HERE](#).** (Scans of chapters can be provided if you have trouble getting a copy of the book.)



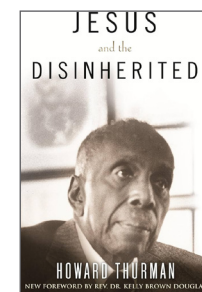
## Next Faith on Tap at Warbler on May 7 @ 6:30 pm

St. John’s and Holy Spirit invite you to join us for good conversations about faith and life, as well as delicious local brews (soft drinks available).

**Our next faith on tap will be Wednesday, May 7, at 6:30 pm at Warbler Brewery** (155 Delaware Ave., Delmar). BYO dinner from a local restaurant (there are three in that strip mall). Come tap into good times!



## First Lutheran Book Club: May 27 @ 6 pm



**First Lutheran invites you to join us at Juniors Bar & Grill on Tuesday, May 27, at 6 pm for a discussion of Howard Thurman’s book, *Jesus and the***

*Disinherited*. In this book, Thurman looks at the teachings of Jesus through the experiences of oppressed peoples. Pick up a copy at the library or at The Book House at Stuyvesant Plaza (book club selections get 20% off there) and join our discussion.



## CHORAL EVENSONG for *The Ascension of Our Lord*

**May 29, 2025 + 8:30 PM**

**St. John’s Lutheran Church  
303 Sand Creek Road, Albany, NY 12205  
[stjohnsalbany.org](https://stjohnsalbany.org)**

**Worship in Person or Online**





## Annual Shred-It Day to Be on Saturday, May 3

**The Annual Free Shred-It Day event will be on Saturday, May 3, from 9 am-noon at Ameriprise** (80 Wolf Rd. in Albany). Some things to know:

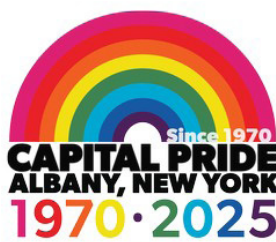
- Documents will be shredded on-site;
- Attendees can pull into the front parking lot;
- Attendees are encouraged to bring non-perishable food items for the Regional Food Bank of Northeastern New York.

For more information about this event, call Jeff Emptage at 518-280-4942.

## Capital PRIDE Parade & Festival on Sunday, June 8

**Did you know that The Pride Center of the Capital District has been serving the LGBTQ+ community in the Capital Region and beyond for 50+ years?** In fact, it is the oldest continuously operating LGBTQ+ Community Center in the country! The Outreach and Evangelism Committee hopes you will join us as we give our support to our LGBTQ+ brothers and sisters in the Capital Region and beyond. **Can you help with any of these?**

- Help set up our table with giveaways from Good Shepherd, St. John's, First Lutheran and Holy Spirit.
- Sign up to work the ALT table in Washington Park (sign-up sheet is available in the narthex).
- Walk in the parade, which kicks off at **11:30 am**, starting down State St. onto Lark Street and then up Madison Avenue to Washington Park.
- Attend the parade and festival.



For more information, please contact Patti Kopach at 518-788-0386.

## Lutheran Night at the ValleyCats on July 6

**Come out for Lutheran Night at the ValleyCats on Sunday, July 6, from 5-8 pm!** Join with your fellow Lutherans of the Capital Region as the Tri-City ValleyCats take on the New Jersey Jackals. The game will be at the Joseph L. Bruno Stadium (80 Vandenburg Ave., Troy, NY). We have a block of group seating reserved, and individual tickets (\$11) can be purchased through the ValleyCats group ticket portal by clicking [HERE](#). The password is **sjlc** (lowercase, no spaces). Questions? Contact Pastor Josh Evans at [pastorjosh@stjohnsalbany.org](mailto:pastorjosh@stjohnsalbany.org).





## Latest Updates from Your Church Council

### Below are the latest updates from your Church Council:

- Council has approved the revisions to the **Building Use Policy** and copies will be made available to council members at the May meeting.
- Council was updated on plans to host a **Senior Appreciation Luncheon on Friday, May 2, at noon** as a way for Good Shepherd to show appreciation for seniors who play cards at Good Shepherd and the Colonie Seniors Board as they support many of our activities and bring food and make monetary donations to Little Food Pantry. This was one of the goals Council set at our retreat in February.
- **Holy Spirit, an ALT congregation, has a need for a popcorn machine.** Seeing we don't use the one we have, Council decided to give it to Holy Spirit, knowing if down the road we need it we could borrow it back for one of our events.

- Personnel Committee has completed a **Job Posting for an Office Coordinator.** A copy of the posting was provided to Council.
- **May 11 will be Good Shepherd Sunday.** We will have a Grand Coffee with a special cake and punch. (This marks the 64th Anniversary of Good Shepherd).
- ALT Worship Service on Sunday at one ALT Congregation every quarter as a way of bringing all four churches and members together like we do for the Lenten Service. We will have first one on June 22 where we will worship at St. John's on Sand Creek Rd. (See page 4 for more info on **ALT: Sundays Together.**)
- **Financially we ended with a \$3,396 surplus on March 31, 2025.**
- **Our next two meetings will be on Mondays at 6:30 pm: May 12 and June 9.**

## WELCA: Good Shepherd Unit

The green grass, budding trees and appearance of flowers are signs of Spring. **Another sign of Spring is the appearance of our Turquoise Table.** It has been placed in its usual spot along Shaker El. All are welcome to use this table as a welcome place to connect with friends and neighbors while enjoying fresh air and sunshine.

### Our WELCA unit also has several events planned for Spring/Summer:

- On April 1, a Mexican-themed dinner was prepared and served to students and ministry staff at Cornerstone Campus Ministries at SUNY-Albany. **We have agreed to support this ministry in 2025 and plan to do another "Food & Faith" dinner with this group in the Fall.**
- Members of our Women of the ELCA unit will host a **Fellowship Hour in June.**
- **Nancy Serge will host our summer WELCA "Get Together" in June or July.** Additional details will be provided when they are available.

**Our WELCA unit is open to all the women of our congregation.** Please contact [marjorieraymond84@gmail.com](mailto:marjorieraymond84@gmail.com) with any questions.

## Worship Attendance

Date	In-Person	Zoom	Total
March 2	29	7	36
March 5 *	22	5	27
March 12	34	4	38
March 16	34	0	34
March 23	36	8	44
March 30	36	5	41
* Ash Wednesday			
April 6	34	2	36
April 13	42	0	42
April 19 *	60	1	61
April 20 **	73	4	77
April 27	35	4	39

\* Easter Vigil

\*\* Easter Sunday



Women of the **ELCA** 

### WELCA Purpose Statement

"As a community of women created in the image of God, called to discipleship in Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves to grow in faith, affirm our gifts, support one another in our callings, engage in ministry and action, and promote healing and wholeness in the church, the society, and the world."



## Making a Difference with Your Financial Support

The set of offering envelopes includes an envelope in May for donations to the Endowment Fund which was established in 1985. Programs and areas of support are recommended by the Committee and approved by the Church Council for funding. **Disbursements are made at least annually in the following categories:**

- Capital Improvements, debt reduction or building program of Good Shepherd;
- Scholarships or grants to members of Good Shepherd for seminary or church-related studies which enable members of this congregation to grow in Christian faith and service to God's people;
- Grants to local organizations for people in our area who are in spiritual or economic need;
- Missions of the Lutheran Church at home and overseas.

**An envelope is included in June for the Hillebrandt Scholarship Fund.** This Fund, named for Charles and Caroline Hillenbrandt, was established with an allocation of \$10,000 from the Hillenbrandt Estate. Its purpose is to award merit scholarships (\$250) to members of Good Shepherd students enrolled in post-secondary education programs. The original allocation has been distributed, and we rely on donations to maintain the Fund and provide financial support to students who apply for the scholarships.

**Please consider a donation to these worthy causes! Thank you!**

## Fundraising Report by Steve & Nancy Layne, Chairs

**The Fundraising Team is continuing to work on upcoming events for 2025 and we have had several meetings thus far.**

**The Shrove Pancake Breakfast was a success.** There were many volunteers and it was very well received by the participants.

**During the month of May, our next event will be the Yard Sale to be held on Saturday, May 31, from 9 am-2 pm. (See page 5.)**

Michelle Wiegert is the chair of this event and there have been several meetings to put together a plan along with volunteers, publicity, etc. to make this event a success. We plan on having a food truck on premises for this and it is our very own Tovah who rents our kitchen. The name of her food truck is Press and she does a number of different things such as paninis, quesadillas, etc. She is also going to provide breakfast sandwiches. A letter will be going out to our previous vendors to see if they are interested in attending again. Items will also be collected from church members and their friends. However, we will not be accepting any type of electronics, DVDs, CDs, etc. There will be a sign-up sheet for volunteers in the Narthex and questions can be addressed to Michelle.

**Berry Fest will be held on July 12.**

Plans for that will be firmed up and info sent out regarding this event.

Also being discussed is another **Pork Dinner in the Fall.** This is an event that always goes over well.

Once again, a **Bake Sale will be held Election Day, November 4.**

That seems to be well received and people seem to look forward to it.

We have firmed up the dates for the **Holiday Boutique to be held on November 22** and the planning has also started for that.

**The annual Cookie Walk sponsored by WELCA will be held on December 13.** Again, this is always a big event and is well received, so we need as many of our fine bakers as possible to make additional baked goods this year!

**A continuous fundraising process of ours is the Clynk can collection,** which is very profitable. Clynk bags are available in the Narthex for anyone to take and drop off at a Hannaford or bring to church to be taken to Hannaford.

**WE NEED ALL OF YOUR HELP!** 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!

### ONLINE GIVING

To securely give online with Tithe.ly, please visit [www.gslcl.org/#make-donation](http://www.gslcl.org/#make-donation)

Please consider a recurring donation to support our ministries. Thank you!



## CS = Colonie Senior Citizens Club

### Thursday, May 1

12:30 pm: CS Bridge (Blue Room)  
CS Line Dancing (Fellow. Hall)  
4:00 pm: Drama Kids (Full Building)

### Friday, May 2

9:00 am: CS Pinochle (Blue Room)  
12:00 pm: Senior Appreciation Luncheon  
5:00 pm: Dance Assembly (Fellow. Hall)

### Saturday, May 3

9:00 am: Shred-It Event at Ameriprise  
7:00 pm: Musical Celebration at Good Shepherd in Glenville

### Sunday, May 4

8:45 am: WORSHIP  
9:45 am: Fellowship  
10:05 am: *The Invitational Christian:*  
Discussion: Blue Room/Zoom  
1:30 pm: CROP Hunger Walk:  
Registration Begins

### Monday, May 5

7:00 pm: Book Discussion via Zoom:  
*How We Learn to Be Brave*

### Tuesday, May 6

12:30 pm: CS Mah Jongg (Blue Room)

### Wednesday, May 7

1:30 pm: Blood Drive at GS  
6:30 pm: Faith on Tap: Warbler Brewery

### Thursday, May 8

12:30 pm: CS Bridge (Blue Room)  
CS Line Dancing (Fellow. Hall)  
4:00 pm: Drama Kids (Full Building)

### Friday, May 9

9:00 am: CS Pinochle (Blue Room)  
5:00 pm: Dance Assembly

### Sunday, May 11 ~ Mother's Day

*Good Shepherd Sunday*  
8:45 am: WORSHIP  
9:45 am: Fellowship

### Monday, May 12

6:30 pm: Church Council Meeting  
7:00 pm: Book Discussion via Zoom:  
*How We Learn to Be Brave*

### Tuesday, May 13

9:00 am: Tova: Kitchen  
12:30 pm: CS Mah Jongg (Blue Room)

### Thursday, May 15

12:30 pm: CS Bridge (Blue Room)  
CS Line Dancing (Fellow. Hall)  
4:00 pm: Drama Kids (Full Building)

### Friday, May 16

9:00 am: CS Pinochle (Blue Room)

### Saturday, May 17

Our Redeemer, Scotia, 100th Anniv (p. 6)

### Sunday, May 18

8:45 am: WORSHIP with Rededication  
of the Sanctuary Brass  
9:45 am: Fellowship  
10:05 am: *The Invitational Christian:*  
Discussion: Blue Room/Zoom

### Monday, May 19

7:00 pm: Book Discussion via Zoom:  
*How We Learn to Be Brave*

### Tuesday, May 20

9:00 am: Tova: Kitchen  
12:30 pm: CS Mah Jongg (Blue Room)

### Thursday, May 22

12:30 pm: CS Bridge (Blue Room)  
CS Line Dancing (Fellow. Hall)  
4:00 pm: Drama Kids (Full Building)

### Friday, May 23

9:00 am: CS Pinochle (Blue Room)

### Sunday, May 25 ~ Holiday Weekend

8:45 am: WORSHIP  
9:45 am: Fellowship

### Monday, May 26 ~ Memorial Day

All Day: Yard Sale Prep: Fellowship Hall  
7:00 pm: Book Discussion via Zoom:  
*How We Learn to Be Brave*

### Tuesday, May 27

All Day: Yard Sale Prep: Fellowship Hall  
9:00 am: Tova: Kitchen  
12:30 pm: CS Mah Jongg (Blue Room)  
6:00 pm: First Lutheran Book Club

### Wednesday, May 28

All Day: Yard Sale Prep: Fellowship Hall  
9:00 am: CS Board Meeting (Blue Room)

### Thursday, May 29

All Day: Yard Sale Prep: Fellowship Hall  
12:30 pm: CS Bridge (Blue Room)  
8:30 pm: Ascension Day Choral  
Evensong at St. John's

### Friday, May 30

All Day: Yard Sale Prep: Fellowship Hall

### Saturday, May 31

9:00 am: Community Yard Sale at GS

### Sunday, June 1

*Reconciling in Christ Sunday*  
8:45 am: WORSHIP  
9:45 am: Fellowship  
10:05 am: *The Invitational Christian:*  
Discussion: Blue Room/Zoom

### Tuesday, June 3

9:00 am: Tova: Kitchen  
12:30 pm: CS Mah Jongg (Blue Room)

### Thursday, June 5

12:30 pm: CS Bridge (Blue Room)  
CS Line Dancing (tentative)

### Friday, June 6

9:00 am: CS Pinochle (Blue Room)  
5:00 pm: Dance Assembly (Fellow. Hall)

### Sunday, June 8 ~ Pentecost Sunday

8:45 am: WORSHIP  
9:45 am: Fellowship  
10:05 am: *The Invitational Christian:*  
Discussion: Blue Room/Zoom  
11:30 am: Capital PRIDE Parade & Fest.

### Monday, June 9

6:30 pm: Church Council Meeting

### Tuesday, June 10

9:00 am: Tova: Kitchen  
12:30 pm: CS Mah Jongg (Blue Room)

### Thursday, June 12

12:30 pm: CS Bridge (Blue Room)  
CS Line Dancing (tentative)

### Friday, June 13

9:00 am: CS Pinochle (Blue Room)

### Sunday, June 15 ~ Father's Day

8:45 am: WORSHIP  
9:45 am: Fellowship  
10:05 am: *The Invitational Christian:*  
Discussion: Blue Room/Zoom

### Tuesday, June 17

9:00 am: Tova: Kitchen  
12:30 pm: CS Mah Jongg (Blue Room)

### Thursday, June 19

12:30 pm: CS Bridge (Blue Room)  
CS Line Dancing (tentative)

### Friday, June 20

9:00 am: CS Pinochle (Blue Room)

### Sunday, June 22

9:30 am: WORSHIP AT ST. JOHN'S:  
ALT: SUNDAYS TOGETHER

### Tuesday, June 24

9:00 am: Tova: Kitchen  
12:30 pm: CS Mah Jongg (Blue Room)

### Thursday, June 26

12:30 pm: CS Bridge (Blue Room)  
CS Line Dancing (tentative)

### Friday, June 27

9:00 am: CS Pinochle (Blue Room)

### Sunday, June 29

8:45 am: WORSHIP  
9:45 am: Fellowship  
10:05 am: *The Invitational Christian:*  
Discussion: Blue Room/Zoom  
TBA: Pine Bush Preserve Outing w/First



## MAY: Worship Servers

	May 4	May 11	May 18	May 25
Opener	Maryanne Sangiacomo	Steve Layne	Marjorie Raymond	Emmie Knobloch
Greeter	Vicki LaFrank	Kathy Ingalls	Vicky Gizzi	Dick Walker
Usher	Rob Beach	Bill Wiergert	Paul Spofford	Mark Kleinhenz
Acolyte	Brielle Johnson	TBA	TBA	TBA
Lay Reader	Susan Spofford	Danny Patrick	Betty Suarez	Atif Dean
Communion Asst.	Paul Spofford	Dick Walker	Patti Kopach	Kiran Dean
Altar Setup	Marie Wertman	Marie Wertman	Marie Wertman	Marie Wertman
AV Tech	Maryanne Sangiacomo	Steve Layne	Elizabeth Strohbeck	Emmie Knobloch
Closer	Rob Beach	Atif Dean	Meg Winters	Danny Patrick

## JUNE: Worship Servers

	June 1	June 8	June 15	June 29
Opener	Marie Wertman	Bill Wiergert	Steve Layne	Emmie Knobloch
Greeter	Nancy Serge	Maryanne Sangiacomo	Nancy Serge	Kathy Ingalls
Usher	Mike Serge	Dick Walker	Danny Patrick	Paul Spofford
Acolyte	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA
Lay Reader	Meg Winters	Mike Serge	Mark Brenneman	Danny Patrick
Communion Asst.	Bertie Cole	Nancy Serge	Jill Brenneman	Marjorie Raymond
Altar Setup	Patti Kopach	Patti Kopach	Patti Kopach	Patti Kopach
AV Tech	Marie Wertman	Maryanne Sangiacomo	Steve Layne	Emmie Knobloch
Closer	Mike Serge	Rob Beach	Danny Patrick	Marjorie Raymond

REMINDER: June 22 at 9:30 am: We will worship at St. John's for ALT: Sundays Together. Join us!

## 2025 Counters Schedule

Month	Counters
January	Chris & Bill Wiegert
February	Colleen Ward & Marjorie Raymond
March	Jeannette Harting & Meg Winters
April (Easter)	Colleen Ward & Marjorie Raymond
May	Chris & Bill Wiegert
June	Jeannette Harting & Meg Winters
July	Colleen Ward & Marjorie Raymond
August	Chris & Bill Wiegert
September	Jeannette Harting & Meg Winters
October	Chris & Bill Wiegert
November	Colleen Ward & Marjorie Raymond
December	Jeannette Harting & Meg Winters

Thank You for Making Worship  
Happen at Good Shepherd!

