



September 2019

“For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one

who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now;” Romans 8:19-22

Summer days are certainly flying by, and before too long it will be the beginning of autumn. Many wait for summer to come so they can begin some vacation time. Others wait for fall to arrive to usher in some cooler weather. It seems much of our time is spent waiting for one thing or another. In Paul’s letter to the Romans, he points out that creation is also waiting. Creation is waiting to be set free from “its bondage to decay.” It “has been groaning” waiting to be heard. The evidence is before us that the climate crisis has reached a tipping point. It is almost too late to do something to reverse the damage that humans have caused. The key word, however, is *almost*. While there is not a lot of time left, there is still time to turn things around if we act now. Creation is waiting for the children of God to set it free.

God has entrusted to us the care of the earth; it’s our responsibility as good stewards. That’s why this year the focus of our Faith Formation programs will be Caring for the Earth. We’ll look at the scriptural basis for this, and seek solutions together on how we can make a positive difference. Good Shepherd’s mission statement is “We are a community of God’s faithful people called by Christ to love, welcome, and care for all.” *All* includes the earth, and all of creation.

I’m looking forward to another exciting year of journeying together in our faith! See you on Rally Day, Sunday Sept. 8th!

Blessings and Peace,
Pastor Edwina

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

- **Betty Cadwallader** who is in rehab recovering from a recent fall. Cards may be sent to her at Schenectady Center for Rehab, Room 308, 526 Altamont Avenue, Schenectady, NY 12306
- **Joan Vanapeldoorn** who is recovering from hip surgery. Cards can be sent to 7 Pettibone Drive, Albany, NY 12205.
- **Maria Mackey** who is recovering from ongoing health issues. Cards may be sent to 9 Consaul Road, Albany, NY 12205.
- **Carolyn Wolfe** who is having continued health issues. Cards can be sent to 112 Rockefeller Road, Apt. 112, Delmar, NY 12054.

Hearing Loop

In early May, Upstate Hearing Loops installed a hearing loop in the sanctuary. The cost of the loop was covered by generous members of the congregation. It allows those with hearing aids to receive the audio directly to their hearing aids. For those with hearing difficulty, but do not have hearing aids, the church has four receivers that can be used along with earbuds or headphones. This will improve accessibility in our church and we are blessed to have this in our worship space!



On Sunday, September 8th
worship services will resume
the regular schedule:
8:00 am and 10:30 am in the Sanctuary.



October Newsletter Deadline: Monday, Sept. 9
Call the Church Office at 458-1562 or e-mail office@gsicl.org
if you have item(s) for publication.



September Birthdays

5 - John McGrath	18 - William Kleinhenz
6 - Pastor Edwina	18 - Carol Stubbs
9 - Elena Kleinhenz	20 - Linda Plue
10 - Jamie Crouse	21 - Elizabeth Kaercher
13 - Ron Lagerroos	16 - Amaria Chohan
21 - Kathy Westerholt	17 - Sunny DeLory
23 - Maryanne Sangiacomo	29 - Louis Reiss



Rally Day – September 8th – 9:15 am



Calling all parents, children, youth, and adults!

Rally Day is an exciting time when everyone in our congregation gathers together to kick off the beginning of another year of Faith Formation!

Parents, please bring your children with you, register them for Sunday School, join in on the service project. And have them bring their backpacks for a Blessing of the Backpacks during worship.

To celebrate Rally Day there will be an **Ice Cream Social** provided by the Hillenbrandt Scholarship Team during fellowship hour. You don't want to miss this!

We'll also be participating in a "God's Work. Our Hands" Sunday Service Project! See next page.



Evangelical
Lutheran
Church in America

God's work.
Our hands.

God's Work – Our Hands – Sunday, Sept. 8th

Since 2013, thousands of ELCA congregations have participated in this dedicated day of service, gathering to serve communities in ways that share the love of God with all of God's people. The event has quickly become an anticipated way to be "church together" and "church for the sake of the world."

Everyone – children and adults – are invited to **gather at 9:15am on Sept. 8th** as we **Rally Together** and participate in a congregation-wide service project. Once again this year we will be making "Bags of Thanks" for nurses and other staff in local hospitals and nursing homes who provide such wonderful care for others. We will be filling paper lunch bags with sandwiches that we will assemble, snacks, and a personal note from the children. Those who received these bags last year were so very appreciative. If you cannot physically help on that day, but would like to provide brown paper lunch bags, bread, lunchmeat, snacks, or juice packs, please let Pastor Edwina know.

"God's Work. Our Hands." Sunday is an opportunity to celebrate who we are as the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA)-one Church, freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor. We look forward to joining together to work on this service project and help spread the love of Christ in our community!



Please have all children bring their backpacks on Rally Day – **Sunday, Sept. 8th** - for a special **Blessing of the Backpacks** during the children's time at worship.

Faith Formation/Sunday School

Last year we began a new Intergenerational Sunday School program that has been going very well. Children and adults are growing in faith together, and creating positive relationships. Children learn from adults, and adults are learning and being inspired by children.

We will be continuing and expanding on this intergenerational approach this year. On the first Sunday of every month, all faith formation groups – Faith Matters, Bible Study, and Sunday School will meet together in the fellowship hall at 9:15 am for the topic of the month and learn and grow together. These groups will then meet individually during the remaining Sundays of the month and continue discussions based on the monthly topic. This approach will further help build relationships in our congregation as we journey in faith together.

The theme for this entire year will be on Environmental/Creation Stewardship. God has entrusted all people to care for the earth, which is in a state of crisis right now. As a community of faith, and disciples of Jesus, we have an obligation to help protect and care for God's creation.

For the month of September, the first meeting with all of the faith formation classes will be on Sunday, September 15th in the fellowship hall.

Confirmation

It's hard to believe that another year of Confirmation is about to begin. Confirmation classes are held in collaboration with the Albany Cluster of Lutheran Churches. This year, Holy Spirit Lutheran Church and Good Shepherd Lutheran Church will be working together again. Pastor Dave Preisinger who was serving at Holy Spirit Lutheran Church has retired, and Pastor Edwina will be working with the Interim Pastor to set-up a confirmation schedule for either later in September or October. Stay tuned for more information to come.

Garden News

The garden is having a good year. Produce has been dropped off to the Colonie Senior Center and also to the Christ Our Light Food Bank. They provide food for 70 families in Colonie and Loudonville.



Volunteers are always welcome there for a once-a-month commitment. Contact George Elmer at 518-729-0310. Garden help nights will continue every Wednesday at 6:00 pm

Finding Money to Save

Please join us on **Monday, September 9th** at 6:00 pm for a workshop offered by Paula Heighton, our local Thrivent representative. Participants will learn important tips for saving money.



Please **RSVP by Sept. 4th** either by signing up on the sheet in the front entry way(narthex) or calling the church office at 518-458-1562. Refreshments will be served.



Ninth Annual Community Fun Day

The Outreach and Evangelism Ministry Team is putting the final touches on this year's Community Fun Day which will be on **Saturday September 28th from. 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM.** To either refresh your memory or for new members let us explain to you exactly what the Community Fun Day is. This is a fun day for everyone and a special way to thank the community (both in-house and folks that reside in the surrounding area) who support the many events that we have throughout the year. It is an opportunity for us to share information about Good Shepherd and the many faith opportunities that this community of faith provides as well as the many ministries that we are involved in. A free lunch will be provided to everyone consisting of hot dogs, french fries, cookies, homemade lemonade and coffee.

We will also be having informational tables about organizations in the area and Rite Aid will be providing flu and pneumonia immunizations and possibly shingles shots if the vaccine is available. Please remember to bring your immunization card. We will also have pony rides and a craft table for children as well as a guest appearance from Otto the Auto. Some of the informational vendors will be the Albany County Department of Aging, Drama Kids, Albany County Substance Abuse Program, Umbrella/RSVP, Mi Sci Museum, Albany County Sheriff's Department, Kitten Angels, Thrivent Financial, Core Four (Qi Gong Demonstration), and Rise (Immigration Program). We will also have information about Living Wills, Alzheimer's Association, Moms Demand Action For Gun Sense in America and SNUG (So Never Use Guns) and Cornell Cooperative Extension.

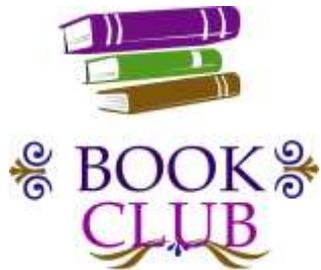
So please mark this date on your calendar! Come out and join the fun and welcome our neighbors and vendors from the community. Hope to see you all on September 28th!

Men's Breakfast

The men's breakfast will resume on **September 7th**. The men of the church are invited to join together on the **first and third Saturday of each month at 8:00am** at the church. If you would like more information, please contact Mark Kaercher.

Church Book Club

Join us on **Tuesday, Sept. 17th** at 6:30 as we delve into the book, "The Great Divorce" by Ilyon Woo. This is the true story of a nineteenth century mother's extraordinary fight to regain custody of her three children and her battle with her husband, the Shakers, and her times.



Johanna Batman, the director of the Shaker Heritage Site, has also invited the group to tour the site, and learn about the life of the Shakers. This will be a fun and educational adventure that we hope you will participate in.

Ministry Team Fair

On **Sunday, September 15th**, after each service, members and visitors of the church are invited to the Ministry Team Fair. Tables will be set up in the fellowship hall and narthex, where people can learn more about the many missions, committees, and ministries that exist in our church. Additionally, you can also sign up to join a ministry team (or teams)!





The Music Corner

“Remember, we usually can't choose the music life plays for us, but we can choose how we dance to it”
-
Anonymous

Hope everyone had a wonderful summer. Choir rehearsal will resume Thursday's evenings from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. and Sunday mornings from 10:00 a.m. to 10:15 a.m. Our Autumn schedule will begin **10:00 a.m. on Sunday morning, September 8th** and **6:00 p.m. Thursday, September 12th**. We've incorporated children's choir rehearsal as part of Sunday School. Children's choir rehearses **Sunday's from 9:45 a.m.-10:00 a.m. and will begin Sunday morning, September 15th**.

Several of you have provided lists of your favorite hymns and we continue to incorporate them into the music schedule. Please forward lists of favorite hymns to the attention of the music director's mailbox at Good Shepherd Church.

If you are called to participate in our music ministry (vocal choir or instrumentalist), please speak to myself, Pastor Edwina or any of the choir members after service. You can also leave a message at the Church office.

Carl Rorie Alexandrov, Director of Music

Church Council News

As a teacher, September marks the beginning of a new school year. In a way, it also feels like the start of a new year for our church. So here's a look at what the church council has been working on and what's coming up:

- At the August council meeting, we discussed the topic of air conditioning in the Sanctuary. Pastor has worked with Council to get three different estimates for the work. Marie Wertman will be assembling a team to plan a congregational survey to gauge interest, which will then be followed by a special meeting in October.
- September will be a busy month for our Stewardship campaign. I want to thank Danny Patrick for his work with this team. There will be weekly focuses on time, talents, and financial contributions, along with a celebration luncheon on Sept. 29th.
- As we enter the fall season, I ask you to think about members of our congregation that you haven't seen in a while. In addition to being stewards of our time, talents, and money, we also need to be stewards of each other. So I invite you to reach out and let someone know that they are missed and that you are thinking of them, and invite family, friends, and neighbors to worship too.
- On August 15th, Pastor and I closed on the sale of the portion of land needed by Albany County to install the traffic light on Albany Shaker Road. The church received \$2000 for the sale, and the council voted to deposit \$1800 in the Building & Repairs fund and \$200 in the Endowment Fund.
- Danny Patrick has worked with a company to develop a road sign for our church. This sign will be installed at the corner of Osborne and Albany-Shaker Roads, will feature the ELCA logo, and will direct people to our location. The Council approved the purchase and installation of the sign. Funds will come from the Memorial Fund.

As always, I am thankful for all that the members of Good Shepherd do to further our mission.

Mark Kaercher

Faith Matters – Climate Crisis



No, not climate change. Climate crisis.

The signs of earth's warming are more frequent and apparent ... and the effects increasingly center on "the least of these".

Estimates suggest between 140 million and 1 billion climate refugees will be created in the next 30 years. We are told NOW is the time to act, to get serious about caring for creation.

Faith Matters is taking up the challenge to learn about and pursue responsible Earth practices. We'll join our Inter-generational Sunday School on the first Sunday of each month (this month Sept. 15) to explore the month's creation care theme ... and to remind ourselves of our desire to leave Earth a better place for our children.

Other weeks you will find us during the Sunday Education Hour in the "Blue Room", listening to messages from our Christian heritage, hearing the call of contemporary prophets and scientists, exploring particular environmental issues. Most importantly, we'll consider ways to green up our homes, our congregation, our society. Our goal is to change, to evolve, to *re-form*.

For September, our focus is **Biblical Foundations for Earthkeeping**. Before diving into various environmental issues, we'll take the time to ground ourselves in God's message to us about creation care. Think Green Bible Study. Join in. Our good earth needs you.

Monday Game Nights

Good Shepherd will be hosting a Game Night on Monday nights in the fall starting on **September 23rd** at 6:30 pm.

This event will be open to the community, and it is sure to be a lot of fun. We need volunteers to be there on Monday nights to greet people and make sure things run smoothly. **We also need volunteers to**

bring snacks! Please contact Pastor Edwina if you are interested in helping out.



News from the Senior Shepherds

Senior Shepherds welcome everyone back after a busy summer. A number of seniors have been busy helping with the summer lunch program.

Our first meeting will be held on **September 27th at 11:00**. We will be discussing plans for the coming year and we are always looking for new members.

Please bring a sandwich - dessert will be provided.

Tuesday Morning Bible Study

Come and join in on the Tuesday Morning Bible Study that meets each week from 11:00 am – 12:15 pm in the Blue Room as we study Scripture and grow in God's word. Starting in September we will begin studying the book of Revelation. It's a wonderful book of hope and promise that is so often misunderstood. Each week we begin in prayer, reach out to others who may be ill or just need cheering up with a card and personal note, and enjoy some coffee, tea, and other snacks. If you have any questions or need a ride, please contact Carolyn Wolfe or Bertie Cole.



Save the Date – Fall Blood Drive

Good Shepherd's Fall Blood Drive will be **Wednesday, October 30th 1:30PM - 6PM**. All healthy individuals over 17 and weighing 110 pounds are eligible to donate. The interval for single red cell donations is 56 days and for double red donations is 112 days. This summer due to severe weather conditions, the blood supply has been very limited.

If you would like to donate for the first time or have questions concerning donating please contact Carol Phelps at 355-3901.

Women of the ELCA

Many thanks to Susan Perkins, who has been our WELCA coordinator for the past year! She has helped coordinate the Tea and Talks, which have been such an enjoyable time for everyone who attends.

Due to several life changes, Susan is no longer able to continue as the WELCA Coordinator, and we are **looking for a new coordinator** to lead this dynamic group in the congregation. Please prayerfully consider being the new coordinator, and let Pastor Edwina know as soon as possible. We'd like to continue to have the Cookie Walk again this December, and need to make plans right away. Thank you.

Don't forget to register for the **Upstate NY Synod Women of the ELCA 2019 Convention "And God said....Walk a Faithful Journey" October 4th – 6th** at the Notre Dame Retreat House in Canandaigua, NY. The cost is \$65.00 for the weekend, not including lodging. See poster on the bulletin board for more details. **Registration deadline is September 16th.**

Hoffman Car Wash Helping Hands Fundraiser

Proceeds will now go to the Hillenbrandt Scholarship Fund. Tickets available from Chris Kleinhenz or online at <http://www.hoffmanhelpinghands.com/fundraiser.cfm?id=375> Exterior \$10 – Interior \$25. They make great Christmas and birthday gifts!!



September-October Cluster Collection

As we do each fall, the Lutheran Cluster Churches will be collecting cleaning supplies for the Emergency Overflow Homeless Shelter in September and October. In addition to cleaning supplies—the shelter is also needs to replace bed pillows, wash cloths and protective pillow covers (not pillow cases) that zip, similar to ones used in hospitals and nursing homes.

Also, the eating and drinking products used on a daily basis in the shelter can no longer be Styrofoam, and they are in desperate need of paper hot and cold cups (only 6 oz. and 8 oz.) as well as sturdy paper plates. If you are able to pick these up between now and the first of October, that would greatly help the shelter start off right this coming season.

Social Justice

What a rich era we live in to explore Social Justice issues. Jesus preached justice as something that is lived out daily in each of us. We have so many opportunities to be someone's justice. Whether we are a voice in our neighborhood meeting and conversing with our neighbors, becoming active in our church and community through volunteering or interacting on a broader level by expressing our views and beliefs to our legislators...we are preaching justice.

We also need to remember we are an example to those who come after us and they need a clear path to light their way.

"He is the Rock, his work is perfect, for all his ways are Equity, A God faithful, without unfairness, Uprightness itself and Justice."
Deuteronomy 32:4.



Just Breathe: Contemplation at Good Shepherd



The Whole Enchilada

"Sitting in silence isn't the whole enchilada. Life is the whole enchilada." Richard Rohr

When I was teaching, my daily life was ruled by the academic calendar. Teaching was all consuming. I'd start planning (and worrying) in early August, and continue to focus on school activities all the way through June...just to start the cycle all over again after a few weeks respite. Work entered and climbed the ladder of my attention as I framed my days and nights. I suspect it is the same for each of us. How in the midst of this reality can we make time for contemplation?

Let me tell you a little secret: being too busy is not the key to a good life.

It took me some time to learn that a spiritual practice, whether daily prayer, reading, or contemplation, puts me on a path that is less frantic, more connected, and better able to see what is needed at each moment. What flows from this may not be perfect, but it is better. And, with practice, better keeps getting better.

Just Breathe offers a friendly place to release worry and just be. We sit without judgment, hear a few encouraging words, ding a bell and rest in silence. After a few minutes the bell sounds again and we share some thoughts. We find solace and renewal in the company of kindness.

Just Breathe meets every Wednesday at GSLC for 45 minutes or so at 7PM. We invite you to join us for a quiet sit and some heart felt conversation. No dress code, no dues, and whether you prefer red or green sauce on your enchiladas, all are welcome.

Thank you, and peace.
Mike Gerrish

Stewardship

The Stewardship Ministry Team has been working on this year's Commitment Sunday scheduled for **Sunday September 29th**. We will have the opportunity to return our pledge cards with the contribution amount that we would like to give this community of faith for ministry in the next coming year. The team has decided to begin our yearly stewardship discussions earlier and separate from our financial budget/mission plan for the upcoming year. We want to think about stewardship as giving our time, talents, and resources in response to what God has blessed us with rather than simply thinking about giving to a budget to pay church bills.

In addition to our pledge cards being received and these gifts being blessed by Pastor on Commitment Sunday, we will be having a catered lunch that day after the 10:30 AM service as a result of a Thrivent Action Grant that Mark Kaercher obtained. This luncheon is for everyone, whether you choose to pledge or not, as a way of saying thank you for all that you do for Good Shepherd in being good stewards of your time, talents and resources. We do many wonderful ministries and most - if not all of what we do - could not be done by one person, but we can do God's work together. It is all about how our congregation can together live out God's call to love God and our neighbors.

On the three Sundays in September before Commitment Sunday at both worship services you will see videos made by different members of the congregation who will answer the question: - "What does it mean to you to be a good steward of either your time, talents, or resources/money here at Good Shepherd and in your daily life?" These might be good questions for all of us to ask ourselves before Commitment Sunday.

Danny Patrick



Fair Trade – Sweet Health

Much has been said about dark chocolate:

- curbs sugar cravings
- rich in healthy fats, iron, magnesium
- boosts blood flow to brain, enhances cognitive function
- as source of pre-biotics and pro-biotics, helps gut health
- lowers risk of heart disease
- even can reduce that dreaded belly-fat!



But it must be dark ... greater than 70% cocoa.

At the Fair Trade cart in the Fellowship Room, we've stocked a full range of dark chocolate bars so you can do a bit of taste-testing. Why not choose bars with different cocoa percentages and see what your taste buds like best?

Bars are \$3 each. And, better yet, are made from 100% organic ingredients, sourced from democratic fair trade co-ops. Your purchase will benefit both small-scale farmers in Latin America and your health. Sweet!

Attendance for June 2019			
Date	8 am	10:30am	Total
6/2/19	24	50	74
6/9/19	26	47	73
6/16/19	24	31	55
6/23/19	27	54	81
6/30/19	34	103	137

Attendance for July 2019			
Date	8 am	9:30am	Total
7/7/19	25	41	66
7/14/19	24	28	52
7/21/19	21	28	49
7/28/19	21	52	73

Financial News

Financial Report for June 2019			
	This Month	YTD	
Expenses	\$12,138.58	\$80,787.56	
Revenue	\$14,741.38	\$83,065.48	
<u>Surplus +</u>			
Deficit -	\$2,602.80	\$2,277.92	

Financial Report for July 2019			
Operating Fund			
	This Month	YTD	
Expenses	\$13,588.77	\$94,376.33	
Revenue	\$12,788.03	\$95,853.51	
<u>Surplus +</u>			
Deficit -	-\$800.74	\$1,477.18	

Tithe.ly

Our online giving is up and running! 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 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.



We now have the added availability of a QR code to make the opportunity to contribute more convenient. You will see the below message in your weekly bulletins and on our website.

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





Support Good Shepherd Lutheran Church with Amazon Smile!

Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to the charitable organization of your choice. Sign in to smile.amazon.com on your desktop or mobile phone browser and choose "Good Shepherd Lutheran Church."



Please help replenish the Building and Equipment Fund that is used for unbudgeted and unexpected needs as they come up for our building or mission station. Special envelopes are in your envelope boxes, in the seats in the sanctuary, and on the table in the narthex. Thank you!

Qi Gong

Boost your metabolism, increase your bone density, improve your balance, and enhance your immune system! **Join the Saturday Morning Qi Gong Club at GSLC** every Saturday starting at 9:30 am. Additional sessions have been scheduled for every Wednesday evening in October at 6:30 pm. Classes are \$10.00 each. This is a wonderful spiritual practice, led by Maria Patrick, Certified Holistic Health Coach & Qi Gong Instructor

Looking Ahead...

"The Qi Gong RX Retreat!"

This is a six-hour Wellness Retreat which will provide you with natural lifestyle, nutrition and Qi Gong "prescriptions" to keep you healthy and help you to heal.

Come find out how to live your healthiest life!



Saturday, October 5, 2019

9:30 am -3:30 pm

**at the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church,
510 Albany Shaker Road, Loudonville**

**\$75 per person - includes light breakfast
refreshments, lunch, and afternoon snacks**

Presented by Maria Patrick

Certified Holistic Health Coach and Qi Gong Instructor

This Wellness Retreat will provide you with nutritional information on a variety of health projects, including Heart Disease, Cancer Prevention, High Blood Pressure, Diabetes and Restorative Sleep. You will learn the proper foods to eat to help improve your health as well as a Qi Gong routine for each health project.

**Email Maria at CoreFourHC@gmail.com
to RESERVE YOUR SPOT TODAY
RSVP by Saturday, September 21st
Must have a minimum of 10 participants**

Blessing of the Animals Sunday, October 6

St. Francis of Assisi, patron saint of animals and the environment, is remembered on his feast day on October 4th.



Our 2nd Annual Blessing of the Animals will take place on Sunday, October 6th at 3:00 pm on the front lawn of the church. Bring your pets (on leashes or in carriers) to receive a special blessing. Invite your friends and neighbors too.



- Solar lights for yard
- Rain barrel for the garden
- Canopy pop-up tent for our events
- Small tables & chairs for fellowship hall
- Regular size tables & chairs for fellowship hall
- Composter
- Garden tools – hand tools, hoe, shovel
- Bird bath
- Air conditioning for sanctuary

Synod Assembly Delegates Needed

*The 2020 Upstate NY Synod Assembly will be a very important one as we will be electing a bishop. For this reason, all conferences are asked to have delegates to the Synod Assembly elected **before October**. Each congregation is asked to send one male and one female delegate. There is a lot of information voting members/delegates will need prior to Synod Assembly. Details of the process of a bishop election will be discussed at the Hudson/Mohawk Fall Conference on **Sunday, October 20th** at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Clifton Park at 2pm.*

If you are interested in being a delegate to the Synod Assembly, please let Pastor Edwina know as soon as possible.

ATTENTION QUILTERS

Looking for a worthwhile and simple summer project?

The Emergency Overflow Homeless Shelter (housed at First Lutheran) has been doing some updating this summer and would like to update the sleeping area as well.

If you can help out—the shelter is looking for **BLUE QUILTS** (any shade) for single beds (70 x 90). Patterns and materials are your choice and can either be machine quilted or tied. They need a **total of 20 quilts** and they will be placed on each bed for the duration of this season and seasons to come. We are hoping these will help the guests feel more at home and not in a shelter. *(please note: members from all of the cluster churches have been invited to participate)*

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church would like to participate in this outreach project by making one or two quilts. You don't need to know how to quilt to join in on the fun. We will need donations of blue fabric, people to cut out the fabric, sewers, and others to help in putting the quilts together. If you would like to join together in working on this worthwhile project please contact Carolyn Wolfe at 518-977-3951.

Many thanks in advance for your participation in this worthy ministry!!!



Many thanks to all of you for your support, encouragement and get well wishes during my recent two months of therapy, both in the Daughters of Sarah Nursing Center and at home, following my second hip surgery which resulted in total replacement. While therapy continues, support from Family and Friends means a lot. Thank you!
Barbara Emptage

Dear Pastor Landry & Friends – Thank you for your generous gift of \$282.65 to Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service. Your contribution is helping to provide life-sustaining care of migrant and refugee families. We are eternally grateful for your congregation’s compassion and I know the families you continue to help extend their gratitude too.
Krish O’Mara Vignarajah, President & CEO

Dear Good Shepherd Congregation – Books for Troops would like to thank you once again for your continued and very generous support by participating in our “Adopt a Box” fundraiser. You are one of our most loyal supporters for which we are extremely grateful.
Ellen Keegan & our volunteers

14th Annual Berry Festival

The Outreach and Evangelism Committee would like to thank everyone who came to this year's Berry Festival and those who gave free will donations. As a result of your generosity we received \$530.00 that has gone in to the general fund to support the various ministries of this community of faith.

A special thanks to all of the volunteers who picked, cut up and served berries; and those who made the delicious biscuits; and those who helped out setting up and cleaning up after the Berry Festival.

They are as follows: Carol Phelps, Jessica Kaercher, Maureen Behrens, Pauline Wanjugi, Susan Perkins, Barbara Rasmussen, Mark Kaercher, Keadden Riggins, Tre'von Riggins, Mary Long, Dorothy Wimble, Colleen Ward, Marilyn Graver, JoAn Walker, and Danny Patrick. Also many thanks to the staff Kathy Williams, Victor Riggins, and Pastor Landry. Everyone had a great time and we look forward to our Fifteenth Annual Berry Festival.

Summer Lunch Program

It is so hard to believe that another Summer Lunch Program at the Schuyler Inn in Menands is winding down. For those of you who might not know we have been providing lunch to families every Thursday in July and August who are in an emergency housing shelter. Many of these families are there as a result of severe financial difficulties or natural disasters (such as fire or flood). They often arrive at the Schuyler Inn with nothing but the clothes they are wearing and are in great need.

The lunch program has been a great success. The families have been very appreciative of the great tasty meals as well as the books and the children's crafts that they receive every week. We will be providing the children with tee shirts, socks, underwear, sweatshirts, and backpacks filled with school supplies. The backpacks have been donated by Fidelis Health Care and the other items have been purchased as a result of Thrivent Action Grants that were obtained by members of the congregation. The tee shirts were donated by the Capital Church on Vly Road in Colonie.

A very big thanks goes out to all of the members of the congregation who donated food items, who made monetary donations, and to all of the volunteers who made this program such a huge success. We will have a full list of all the volunteers and folks who obtained Thrivent Action Grants in the next newsletter after the summer lunch program has been completed for this year. Thus ministry was truly a blessing due to the many members of this congregation. The Outreach and Evangelism Committee cannot thank everyone enough for all that you have done to make this a special and beautiful ministry.

REGULAR WORSHIP SCHEDULE RETURNS SEPT 8 -- 8 am & 10:30 am

- **God's Work, Our Hands Sunday – Sept. 8th - 9:15 am**
- **Blessing of the Backpacks – Sunday, Sept. 8th – 10:30 am**
- **Finding Money to Save Workshop – Monday, Sept. 9th – 6:00 pm**
 - **Community Fun Day – Sat., Sept. 28th 11 am – 2 pm**
- **Commitment Sunday & Special Catered Luncheon – Sept. 29th after 10:30 am service**

MISSION STATEMENT

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