



Greetings in Christ!

As I write this, the sun is shining and the icicles are melting, giving off a feeling of coming spring. And although I know that this is Michigan and the weather is subject to change at a moment's notice, I can't help but feel the hope of sunshine and lifted spirits that comes with the warming of the weather.

In the life of the Church, spring is a time of renewal that includes the dark Lenten journey toward understanding our identity as Beloved of God as well as the bright, sun-bright celebration of Christ's resurrection which is our resurrection. This is the very reason that the early Christians celebrated Easter at the time of the spring solstice, when the dark cold death of winter is infused with the light, warmth and new birth of spring.

The journey through the cross to the light of Easter is a difficult one; in the shadow of the cross we encounter ourselves and emptied of the things we stuff into our empty spaces: our mess and humanness. The good news is that in the shadow of the cross we can lay that mess at the feet of Christ —do a spring cleaning of our hearts and allow God to clean us and make us new.

We all have an empty place; a place that we fill with our struggles, our fears, our sense of being spread too thin because of life's demands. We each have an empty space that we stuff all of our anxieties, sorrows and sins into until it is filled to bursting with the clutter of our worries. During this season of Lent I urge you to open up that space, let God sweep it clean and hollow it out. Let God, in Christ Jesus, make a space for the Spirit to dwell so that you may come to Easter Sunday feeling new, and clean and green with growing.

*Loving God,
We confess that we have stuffed ourselves with our worries and our hopes, hoping to appear outwardly centered when inside we feel drained and distant from you. Empty us, sweep out our sorrow and our sin, make us clean at the foot of the cross and send us forward, out of the empty tomb. Open us to the peace that is you and to the love that comes with trusting you with our burdens.*

*In Christ we pray,
Amen.*

In Christ's Service,

Pastor Jess

LENTEN SERVICES

Wednesdays during Lent

Hosting Church:

March 4:	Peace Lutheran Church
March 11:	Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
March 18:	Peace Lutheran Church
March 25:	Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
April 1:	Peace Lutheran Church



Activities and Services:

6:00 pm: Welcome, Prayer and Supper

6:15 pm: Discussion during supper of

God is Closer Than You Think

by John Ortberg

6:45 pm: Holden Evening Prayer

7:15 pm: Healing Prayer

LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS

Please take a look at our

Sign-up for the Lenten Soup Suppers

in the fellowship area.

These suppers are simple, nourishing and meant to provide time for fellowship and community before our evening prayer services.



NOISY OFFERING

The noisy offering for March and April will go to the Holland Free Health Clinic. The mission of the Holland Free Health Clinic is to express the healing ministry of Jesus Christ by facilitating access to healthcare for those in need and underserved.

In addition to collecting loose change to donate to the Holland Free Health Clinic, we will collect items that can be given to clients of the clinic as part of their Healthy Living Care Packages. Items needed include the following:

- Exercise equipment (1-2 pound weights, yoga mats, stretch bands, etc.)
- Outdoor family games (frisbee, jump rope, toss and catch game, etc.)
- Daily vitamins
- Deodorant
- Almonds, trail mix
- Sunblock



HUMAN TRAFFICKING PANEL DISCUSSION

Local Advocate Hosts Panel on Human Trafficking for Great Decisions 2020



Human trafficking is a global phenomenon
—what’s happening in our own backyard?

On March 10, 2020, Rachel VerWys, co-creator of the West Michigan non-profit Solutions to End Exploitation (SEE), will lead a panel discussion on the issue of human trafficking in West Michigan. The program, “Human Trafficking: Global and Local Perspectives”, is part of Great Decisions 2020, America’s largest discussion program on world affairs. The Holland community will have two options to participate in the program on Tuesday, March 10, 2020: there will be a [live simulcast from noon to 1:00 pm at Holland City Hall](#) and a [live panel presentation from 6:00-7:30 pm at Third Reformed Church](#), 111 W. 13th Street in Holland. Both programs are free of charge; register at [Eventbrite.com](#).

VerWys will assemble panelists who will discuss the issue from multiple perspectives, including law enforcement and survivor advocacy. While there are no easy answers to solving this problem, the panel will discuss how our community can respond to the issue with empathy and practicality.

Produced by Foreign Policy Association, sponsored in Michigan by the World Affairs Council of Western Michigan, and hosted by [Holland’s International Relations Commission](#), Great Decisions offers Holland-area residents access to diplomats, policy makers, think tank specialists, and journalists who lead conversations on some of the most pressing global issues of our time.

The free lunchtime simulcasts will be held at City Hall Council Chambers every Tuesday at noon beginning February 11 through March 31, 2020. Attendees are asked to register in advance at [Eventbrite.com](#). Attendees are invited to bring their lunch; beverages will be provided.

LuAnn Kern
Human Relations Department
City of Holland
616-355-1324
l.kern@cityofholland.com

SUNDAY SCHOOL PROGRAM UPDATES

Changes to our Sunday school program...

For the rest of the school year there will be some changes to our Sunday school program. We are changing this due to scheduling and everyone's busy lives! We want to give our youth a fun and meaningful experience and we believe this is a great way to do it!

The third Sunday (3/15, 4/19, 5/17) of each month we will take the children after the announcements to Sunday school! Kindergarten and younger will be in one classroom and the older kids will be in another. Our littlest ones will continue working on their Bible Verse Alphabet Book while the older kids will be exploring the Bible together. A snack will be provided during our time together and of course singing will be involved!

Please support Tessa Hurt and myself in this program. It takes many hours of volunteer time to make this fun and successful for our kids!

Thanks so much, Julie Hardy



BOOK CLUB NEWS

March Book Selection

A Star for Mrs. Blake by April Smith

The Gold Star Mother's Group was founded by President Hoover after WWI. This group funded travel for mothers of fallen soldiers to visit their sons' graves in France after the war. This is the story of one particular mother, the journey she takes and the impact it has on her life.

We will meet at the church on March 18th at 4:30 pm to discuss this "heart-warming, heart-breaking" story from a footnote in our country's history.

Please contact Laurie Schuldt (616-406-9717) if you would like a



ANNUAL MEETING

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Holland, Michigan Annual Meeting of the Congregation, Sunday, February 23, 2020

Opening Prayer

Call to Order at 11:10 am

Quorum confirmed

33 voting members present

Pastor Jessica

Jessica Underhill, Council President

Vicki Russell, Council Secretary

Committee Reports were reviewed, by Jessica Underhill

Building and Grounds, Worship and Music, Mission and Outreach, Stewardship

Constitution

The procedure for revising our constitution was reviewed. Most changes are technical and do not change the content/meaning and are required by the Synod. The one change requested is changing the number of our council members from 9 to 5 members. The rotation of council members would change from 3 per year to 2 for 2 years and 1 in the 3rd year.

Motion: Accept the Constitution with the changes as indicated. Motion was made by Mike Russell and seconded by Julia Wentz. Motion passed unanimously.

Introduction of Congregation Council

Outgoing members were recognized and thanked for their service: Steve Johnson, Vicki Russell, Julie Wolff, Tessa Hurt, and Sharon Wendt.

Continuing Council members were recognized:

terms expiring in 2021 — Ellie Buggeln, Jessica Underhill

terms expiring in 2022 — Elliott Eisaman, Debbie Kleinjans

Election of Council Members

With the passage of the constitution change, one council member needs to be elected today. Council nominates Chris Manzo to fill this position. There were no nominations from the floor.

Motion: Approve Chris Manzo as a council member for Good Shepherd Congregation Council.

Motion made by Dennis Willaman and seconded by Perry Pearson. Motion passed unanimously.

Election of Synod Assembly Representatives

Council nominates Rob and Lynda Parrott to represent Good Shepherd Lutheran Church at the 2020 Synod Assembly. There were no nominations from the floor.

Motion: Accept Rob and Lynda Parrott as GSLC representatives at the Synod Assembly 2020.

Motion made by Elliott Eisaman and seconded by Pastor Jessica. Motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report, presented by Dennis Willaman.

Items reviewed included the Ministry Expenditure Report, 2018/2019 Data, Mortgage Indebtedness, and the 2019 Treasurer's Report. Expenses were \$1421.00 more than our contributions.

The 2020 proposed spending plan was reviewed. A line item for a nursery child care salary has been added.

Motion: Approve the 2020 Spending Plan. Motion was made by Elliott Eisaman and seconded by Steve Johnson. Motion passed unanimously.

Pastoral Reflections, by Pastor Jessica

Respectfully Submitted,

Vicki Russell, Council Secretary

Extra Annual Meeting packets are available in the office upon request.

LOWERING OUR MORTGAGE PAYMENTS



THE “10C-P” PROGRAM IS UNDERWAY

This designation “10C-P” designates extra contributions to the church’s Mortgage Fund that will be used to pay down the principal on the loan. The **10C** is the Mortgage Fund account number and the **P** will be for the principal. Any funds given toward this program should be designated 10C-P on the check or envelope or online designation.

Our current mortgage payment is \$4,258 monthly which is \$51,096 annually. This is a major portion of our budget. On Nov. 1, 2020 the interest rate for our loan will no longer be fixed at 3.875%. It will be the current interest rate that is charged on new loans as of Sept. 15, 2020. That rate will be fixed for the next 5 years of our loan.

Our current principal owed is \$245,000 and the principal owed on Nov. 1, 2020 is expected to be approximately \$220,300. If we can lower our principal owed to an even lower amount before Sept. 15, 2020 we could lower our monthly payment for the next 5 years. Our loan company, the Mission Investment Fund of the ELCA, calculated that if we could lower our principal by an extra \$35,000 we might have a payment of \$3,367 monthly. This would reduce our loan payment to \$40,404 annually. A big drop over what we are paying currently.

The new interest rate will be set on September 15th and the monthly payments will be set based on our principal owed on September 15. Sunday Sept. 6 will be the last collection taken and processed before September 15. All funds for this project must be received by Sunday September 6, 2020.

Can we raise an extra \$35,000 before Sept. 15, 2020 to make this happen? We already have received over \$7,500.00 toward this program.

If you are inclined to help make this happen with whatever you can afford for the next 5 months, please consider doing that. Your gifts should be marked “10C- P” and they will be used to lower our principal owed before Sept. 15, 2020.

Remember: this needs to be extra funds over and above what we are already receiving because we will have to pay our current monthly loan payment of \$4,258 each month through Nov. 1, 2020. Any extra contribution, designated “10C-P”, no matter how small, will be used to lower the principal owed.

If you have any questions please contact Dennis Willaman, at 616-335-2447 or email at willamandennis780@gmail.com.

VENDER AND CRAFT YOUTH FUNDRAISING EVENT



Mark your calendars

**Vender & Craft Youth Fundraiser
Saturday, April 18.**

Once again we will be having a craft and vendor event to raise funds for the youth of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church. More details to come in the next few weeks!

If you or someone you know would be interested in having a table at our event, please text or call Jessica Underhill (616) 848-9367 for more information.

NEW CHURCH CLOSING POLICY

Council will be updating our church closing policy to reflect the advancement of technology.

If church service on Sunday is cancelled, regular attenders that have a correct mobile phone number recorded in Breeze, our church management system, will receive a text message stating that:

“Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Holland has cancelled Sunday morning service on...” and the date will be given.

This text will come from the number 874-47, not from church. Sunday cancellations will still be posted on WZZM 13, WOOD TV 8 and the Good Shepherd Facebook page.

Weekdays will remain the same: if West Ottawa or Zeeland schools are closed due to weather and/or road conditions, Good Shepherd events for that day are cancelled.



SERVANTS OF THE DAY: LEADERS AND HELPERS FOR WORSHIP

Date	March 1	March 8	March 15	March 22	March 29
Worship Leader	Julie Hardy	Brian Underhill	Carolyn Willaman	Dennis Willaman	Tom Ludwig
Reader(s)	Chris Manzo	Tom Ludwig	Chris Manzo	Chris Martinson	Deb Ludwig
Wine Servers	Chris Manzo & Kerry Johnson	Deb Ludwig & Julie Wolff	Chris Manzo & Vicki Russell		Beckers
Ushers	Mike Russell Andy Rohrer	Jim Dyke Dennis Willaman	Jon Hurt Steve Johnson	Stan Kleinjans Duane Schuldt	Don Burmeister Dennis Willaman
Comm. Prep/ Clean-up	Deb Ludwig	Jessica Underhill	Tammy Walters	Pam Evans & Dan Gutknecht	Debbie Kleinjans
Bread Baker	*****	*****	Elizabeth Rohrer	*****	*****
Nursery					

PASTOR'S SCHEDULE

Beginning January 5, 2020, Pastor Jess' schedule will be as follows:

Mondays:	9:30am - 4:30pm, GSLC Office
Tuesdays:	By appointment, cell phone, or email
Wednesdays:	10:00am-11:30am, (Bible Study), 1:30pm-4:30pm, GSLC Office
Thursdays:	12:30pm-4:30pm, GSLC Office
Fridays:	DAY OFF--Unavailable except for emergencies
Saturdays:	By cell phone or email
Sundays:	GSLC Worship, Fellowship and Events. After 12:00 available by cell-phone and email.

Pastor Jess' email is: pj.gslc@gmail.com, and cell phone is: 616-403-4660.

FIT 4 MOM



Yoga in the Great Outdoors

Weather permitting or in the Commons

6:30 pm, March 29, 2020

Everyone is Welcome!!

FIT4BABY

Classes are each Wednesday
6:30 pm, March 4 - March 25, 2020
Alternate location for Mar. 11 & Mar. 25
to be announced.



OUR THANKS AND PRAISE

The Measure of our Love

Total Sunday Attendance: 178

Average Sunday Attendance: 44

Noisy Offering for Jan./Feb.: \$1094.26



CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Church Council Members:

Ellie Buggeln	(616) 399-0591; elliebuggeln@gmail.com
Elliott Eisaman	(716) 785-0918 elliott.eisaman@gmail.com
Debbie Kleinjans	(616) 88607918 deborahkleinjans@gmail.com
Chris Manzo	(616) 405-3048 chrismanzo@outlook.com
Jessica Underhill	(616) 848-9367 brianjessunderhill@yahoo.com

March

Birthdays

Suzy Aikens 1
Shane Hurt 2
Patricia Bradfield 11
Jurgen Becker 12
Tessa Hurt 12
Lincoln Hardy 14
Kerry Johnson 15
Heather Wagner 26
Jonas Pearson 27
Ollie Leppala 29



Anniversaries

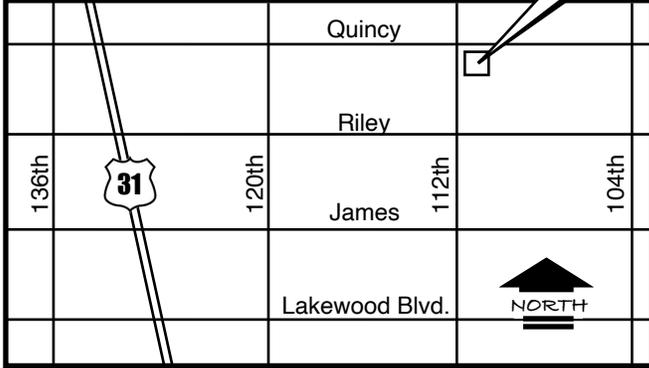
Jon & Tessa Hurt 24
Nathan & Meggan McCaughan 25

In Our Prayers...

- **Congratulations:** to Emily Driy (friend of the Underhills) on the birth of Olivia Grace, Jan. 28, 6 lbs. 5 oz.
- **Healing/Peace:** Russell Bradfield (Patricia's husband), Gretchen Buggeln (Ellie's daughter-in-law), Rick Artwick (Dawn Sjaarda's uncle), Lucas Barton, Zach Bergland (Beckers' nephew), Bryan Blank, Karen Blank, Olivia Boomershine (friends of the Norvells, youngest daughter of Ross and Kelly), Cassie, (friend of Chris Manzo), Kodi DeHaan, Deven (Norvell's grandson), Carol Essig (Bret D'Agostino's aunt), Judy Forsten (Marijo's Sister), Alyssa Gorraiz, Kate Haaser (daughter of Rose Hechel), Erlene Haskin, Hilda (member of Emanuel A. de D.), Jared P-H, (Dawn Sjaarda's cousin), Julie and family (friends of Dawn S.), JM & RM (friends of Sjaardas), Cathy Kelly, Brandi Ketchum (friend of Underhills), Andrew Linn (friends of the Beckers), Bob Lutz, Joan Jose, Michael Meyer (Ron's son), Nana (Som's god-daughter), Alex Norvell (Kris and Floyd's nephew), Sue Norwick, George Preisler and wife Donna (former members), Roland Rivera, Richard Russell (Mike's brother), Katherine Slee (friend of Beckers), Terry Speese (Friend of Pastor Jess), Christopher St. John (son of Bonita Zielke), Som Vixayphone, Myariah Vixayphone, (Som's granddaughter), Roland Walters, (Father-in-law of Tammy), Myrlene Weishaar, Bonita Zielke.
- **Prayers for Our World:** Knowing that we are part of the body of Christ in the world and that we are fellow residents, we pray for the planet and the global community. We pray for all those communities, ecosystems and habitats devastated by wild fires and floods. For all those who have been devastated by the recent volcanic eruptions. For areas in the world torn apart by war, famine and disease. For those who are separated from their families because they have been detained or incarcerated. For religious communities, schools, workplaces, military bases, cities, communities, families and people who have been devastated by violence. We pray that the presence, peace, healing and reconciliation of God be felt and practiced in each of these places.
- **Assisted Living/Nursing Home/Homebound:** Allan Malan, (Eve's dad), Ruth Bergan (relative of Corinne Becker).
- **Healthy Pregnancy:** Tessa Hurt, Hillarie Kinne (Parrott's daughter), Samantha Wagner (Patricia's granddaughter-in-law).
- **Serving Our Country:** John Bounthapanya (Som's nephew), Kody DeHaan, Steve Dyke, Ben Johnson (Parrotts' nephew), Cortney and Konstantin Ivanov (Gigi Howard's daughter and son-in-law), Eric Johnson (Steve & Kerry's son), Kayla Kleinjans (Stan & Debbie's granddaughter), Alex Miller, Andrew Wagner (Patricia Bradfield's grandson), Zachery Wiesner (Gigi Howard's son-in-law).
- **Prayer Partners:** Trinity Lutheran Church, Rev. Ruth Overdire, Manton; Hope Lutheran Church, Supply Pastors, Marlette; All Saints Lutheran Church, Rev. Christin Fawcett, Mason; Christ Lutheran Church, Rev. Ryan Prondzinski, Michigan Center; Northwest Intermountain Synod, Bish. Kristen E.M. Kuempel, Spokane, WA.

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
corner Quincy & 112th, two miles east of US 31
Holland Township

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
3990 N. 112th Avenue
Holland, MI 49424



SUNDAY SCHEDULE

Worship & Celebration • 10:00 am
Coffee & Conversation • 11:15 am
Sunday School (September - May) • 10:20 am

Visit our web site at
www.goodshepherdhollandmi.com
e-mail to gslc.office@icloud.com