



## Visioning the Future

Greetings in Christ!

It's February! This month we will eagerly wait for news on whether or not a groundhog will see its shadow, watch a compilation of some of the best and most creative advertisements that 2023 has to offer while taking occasional breaks to watch a football game (or is it the other way around?), celebrate love in all of its forms and gather together on the last Sunday of the month to process where Good Shepherd has been in 2022 and, more importantly, to begin envisioning where Good Shepherd may be going in 2023.

While meetings are generally not high on the list of fun things for most of us, the Annual Meeting of our congregation allows us the opportunity to learn from where we have been and to really be intentional about where we might be going. It is far more than a discussion of budgets and reports, it is a chance for the church community to ask questions and, more importantly, to collaborate and hear from one another.

It is my hope that you will enthusiastically join us on February 26. Your voice is important and so are your questions. It is also my hope that the annual meeting will kick-off a year of discernment and discovery for Good Shepherd; an opportunity to discern the gifts that God has given us and where those gifts are most needed in Holland, an opportunity to discern what our core values are as a community of faith and to collaborate on ways to invite people to experience this community.

So please, come and be part of the visioning, share your thoughts with us, enjoy fellowship and delicious food with us and be part of the process of visioning our future.

May God bless you and keep you now and always.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Jess

# LENTEN SCHEDULES



## Ash Wednesday Events

February 22, 2023

Pastor will be available for "Drive-By Ashes"

11:00 am - 1:00 pm

Ash Wednesday Worship Service

7:00 pm

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## Soup Suppers are back!

Wednesdays during Lent starting at 6:00 pm

March 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29

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

A sign-up sheet for soups (need 3), bread and salad is on the desk in the Commons.

Soup Suppers



## Holden Evening Prayer Services

Wednesdays during Lent at 7:00 pm

March 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29

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## Maundy Thursday Service

Thursday, April 6, 2023, 7:00 pm



## Good Friday Service

Friday, April 7, 2023, 7:00 pm

## SAMARITAS UPDATE



Pastor Jess and a Samaritas representative with donated items for the Household Starter Kit program, January 11, 2023.

The representative told us that our donation was very timely as Samaritas had almost depleted their supplies. They were especially grateful for the lightbulbs and laundry detergent.

## GRAND RAVINE SENIOR LIVING CHRISTMAS PARTY

### “A Wonderful Time!”

That’s what the Grand Ravine attendees had to say about their Christmas Party.

Bingo started the afternoon, (Lip balm was the coveted prize!) followed by cookie decorating.



## GRAND RAVINE SENIOR LIVING CHRISTMAS PARTY – CONT.

The afternoon finished with singing Christmas Carols.

Thank you to all who participated with time and/or donations

Thank you to those who assisted at the party, Branden Bacon, Mike & Vicki Russell, Carolyn & Dennis Willaman, and Pastor Jess. A special thank you to two of our confirmation students, Jacob Bacon and Jonas Pearson, who also assisted at the party.

A lovely thank you card was sent home with us. It is on the board in the Commons.

Check out resident and staff comments in the Praise and Thanksgiving section below.



## BREEZE - ONLINE GIVING TIPS

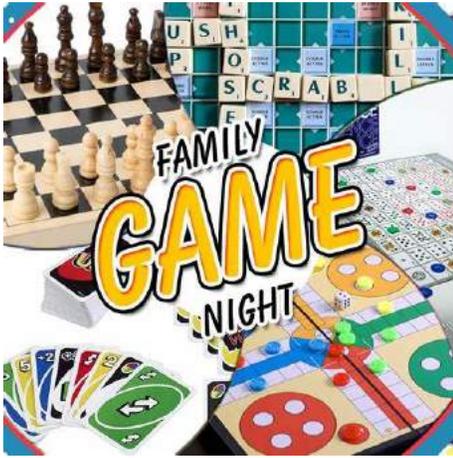
### Online Giving Tips

\*To change your giving amount use **Manage Recurring Giving** under Online Giving. You must make changes to your giving yourself, that cannot be done for you. Be sure to **SAVE** any changes you make.

\*To avoid multiple transaction fees you can give to more than one account in a single transaction. Use the **Give to Another Fund** link to give to as many funds as you want in one single transaction.

\*If you choose to **Add** (fee is indicated here) **to cover the Processing Fee** the amount specified will be added to your contribution. If you do not choose to add the fee then it must be paid by Good Shepherd.

## FAMILY GAME NIGHT



### Family Game Night

Join us for a fun-filled family game night!  
Bring a couple of your favorite board games,  
a snack to share  
as well as beverages for your family.

Saturday  
February 11, 2023  
6:00 pm

## CHOIR NEWS

### Choir Practice



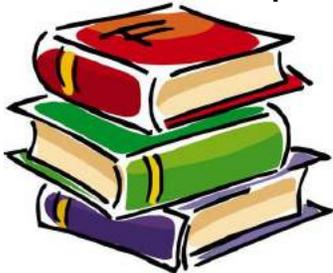
Monday	February 6:	No Choir
Sunday	February 12:	Choir Practice - 11:15 am
Monday	February 13:	Choir Practice - 6:30 pm
Monday	February 20:	No Choir
Monday	February 27:	Choir Practice - 6:30 pm

## BOOK GROUP

### February Selection:

*Empty Mansions: The Mysterious Life of Huguette Clark and the Spending of a Great American Fortune*  
by Bill Dedman and Paul Clark Newell, Jr.

### Book Group



When Pulitzer Prize–winning journalist Bill Dedman noticed a grand home for sale in 2009, unoccupied for nearly sixty years, he stumbled through a surprising portal into American history. *Empty Mansions* is a rich mystery of wealth and loss with a twenty-first-century battle over a \$300 million inheritance. Why did Huguette Clark, who owned palatial homes in 3 states, live for twenty years in a simple hospital room? Why were her valuables being sold off? And who controlled her fortune?

In collaboration with Huguette's cousin, Paul Clark Newell, Jr, Dedman tells of a bright, talented daughter born into a family of extreme wealth who secrets herself away from the outside world. *Empty Mansions* is an enthralling story of an eccentric of the highest order, a last jewel of the Gilded Age who lived life on her own terms.

Books are available on the welcome center. Please sign your name by the number on the book.

## ANNUAL MEETING — FEBRUARY 26, 2023



### Annual Meeting

February 26, 2023, 11:15 am

Light Luncheon to follow

## BUDGET REVIEW MEETING



**Budget Review Meeting**  
in preparation for the Annual Meeting

If you are interested in the budget for 2023, please attend a short review after the worship service.

February 5 & 12, 2023  
11:15 am

## NOISY OFFERING

January & February Noisy Offering:



Community Action Agency Walk for Warmth

Our January and February noisy offering will go to assist the 2023 Walk for Warmth.

The Community Action Agency of Ottawa County provides utility assistance for heat, water, electric and deliverable fuels to prevent loss of service or to have service restored. This program is operated on funding from a variety of grants and the annual [Walk for Warmth](#) event. Assistance is subject to availability of those funds.

This year the Walk for Warmth will be held in Holland on March 4 at 9:30 am. Meet at EV Construction, East 6th Street. Sign up in the commons to join the group from Good Shepherd. Last year we were a Silver Level Sponsor of this worthwhile cause. Donate on Sundays in our noisy offering collection or through our Breeze online giving.



## FROM THE TREASURER

### Mortgage Update



*Tithes and offerings*

Our mortgage balance continues to drop at an accelerating rate. At present we are on track to be mortgage free by 3rd quarter 2025!

#### Brief history:

12/2009	\$738,544
12/2012	\$561,707
12/2016	\$370,868
12/2019	\$286,069
12/2020	\$157,940
12/2022	\$88,445

We've made terrific progress.  
Lets keep the 'pedal to the metal'.

Michael Russell  
Treasurer

## EVENT ORGANIZERS SOUGHT

There has been some discussion by council and in our stewardship meetings about a special event that the congregation can support that may be good for the community and the congregation. Some of the ideas are:

#### Church Yard Sale

Everyone has items in their homes that are no longer in use, collecting dust, or simply have no more purpose. Those are the items you want to ask your congregation to donate to your church's yard sale. Place signs up around town and advertise on social media to draw a crowd. Any leftover items can be stored until the next sale or donated to help the less fortunate.

#### Host a Community Event

Whether you host a block party or create a winter wonderland, hosting a themed event for community members is a surefire way to attract visitors. Connect with local vendors to collect donations to help you pull the event off. You can post about the event on your church's social media pages and ask followers to spread the word.

#### Conduct a Bottle and Can Drive

Bottle and can drives are typically low effort fundraising options, but they can yield a high reward, especially if done consistently. You may set up a can donation station on your church's premises, advertise it to your congregation (ask them to spread the word around town!), and routinely recycle the cans for cash. Not only will you reap cash rewards, but you'll also be helping the planet.

(Continued next page)

## EVENT ORGANIZERS SOUGHT — CONTINUED

### Host an Auction

Auctions are awesome because the vast majority of items being sold can be sourced cheaply or donated by local businesses. Additionally, large ticket items often draw large crowds, so your church may even entice non-members to participate in the auction. This is another event to advertise on social media, as it's important to get as many people involved as possible.

### Virtual Offering Plate

Your church may have members who can't make it to services in person. If these members are immunocompromised they may be missing out in other areas of their lives as well. An online church service is a great way to connect with those congregation members. Setting up a virtual offering plate during your church's online church services gives those watching at home the opportunity to give.

### Host a Movie Night

Hosting a movie night doesn't mean that your church must have a huge projector and sound system. You can scale down to hosting a family movie night on whatever device is available. Encourage guests to bring items like pillows, lawn chairs, and blankets to make themselves comfortable during the film.

### Partner with a Local Business

Partnering with a local business (or more than one!) is a great way to bring the community together and support small businesses. It's a win-win. The business may host a sale with a portion of the proceeds going to your church or they may go as far as to dedicate a day to donate all sales proceeds to your church.

### Bake Sale

Yes, bake sales are among the most common fundraising ideas on the planet. However, there is a reason they are so popular — they work! Bake sales are usually low to no-cost fundraising ideas that enable church members to show off their baking skills and other talents making money for the church. Church members may choose to pay for the cost of ingredients themselves or your church can connect with a local grocer to sponsor the event.

### Social Media Giving Campaign

Social media is a powerful church marketing tool, even without relying on paid campaigns. Churches can launch a simple, free fundraising campaign with just a single post and hashtag. Your church may tap into the generosity demonstrated on the global Giving Tuesday initiative, where social media users may take to social media channels to showcase their donations and invite others to do the same. Post to your church's social media account inviting followers to post a selfie of their pledge to give using the hashtag. #GivingTuesday. As this is a virtual fundraising idea, you'll need to set up an online donation station to help people give.

**If you are interested in helping to organize one of these or any other event, let any member of council or the stewardship committee know. We would be glad to work with you. Research into City and Township policies and requirements as well as costs to be incurred needs to be completed before initial plans are set in motion.**

Dennis Willaman: willamandennis780@gmail.com or 616-335-2447

## FROM THE STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

### UPDATE ON THE CONGREGATION'S RECYCLING EFFORT TO PROVIDE GOOD CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP OF GOD'S GIFTS



Recycling is not an easy thing to do. We have to separate the different materials and make sure they are clean and dry. Sometimes we can't separate the materials and they have to be put in the trash. I have found that since I have been following the City of Holland guidelines for recycling that I have much less trash that goes to the landfill. But until the manufacturers make packaging more recyclable, it will be a problem for the ordinary person to recycle.

However, by recycling we are trying to be good stewards of the gifts God has given us. That, I think, is good Christian Stewardship.

Here are a few of the ways our congregation is trying to provide good Christian Stewardship:

#### EGG CARTONS FOR COMMUNITY ACTION HOUSE FOOD CLUB

The Community Action House Food Club gets eggs to offer at a reduced price for their eligible clients at their store at the corner of Eight Street and Paw Paw. CAH gets contributions of eggs but not in egg cartons. If you have an empty egg carton that you want to contribute you may bring it to church and leave it on the table marked for EGG CARTONS. They can only use cartons for one dozen eggs. Larger cartons cannot be used. The cartons will be picked up weekly and delivered to the Community Action House store.

#### PLASTIC RECYCLE BIN IN CHURCH KITCHEN

If you live where they collect recyclable material we encourage you to participate in that process. Some of the congregation may not have recycling where they live. In that case, the church has a recycle bin in the church kitchen that you may deposit recyclable plastic items.

The recyclable item must be clean and dry to be recycled. Clean means it must be washed clean. If any smear of a food item is left on the container it will grow bacteria, become black, and smell. Please, wash off every item you put into the bin. A couple of months ago, it took me an hour and a half to clean up the contaminated items that had been placed in the kitchen recycling bin. They have been much cleaner recently. Thank you.

Plastic bags and plastic table cloths do not go into this bin. Meijer has a container at its entrance that will recycle plastic bags. Please do not put plastic bags and plastic table cloths in the recycle bin in the kitchen. One of us who participates in the recycling process at our home will pick up the items in the container and recycle them at our home for you.

#### NESTLING'S DIAPER BANK (grocery receipt recycling)

One overwhelming item that the less fortunate needs is diapers. Diapers are too expensive for some people to purchase but without them the family living situation can become very difficult.

In the past, our church has supported Nestling's Diaper Bank. We can continue to support this civic minded organization by collecting our receipts from D&W and Family Fare grocery stores. Nestlings can turn these receipts into the store and receive cash to purchase more diapers. A portion of the receipt is labeled "Direct Your Dollars" and that is the portion that must be attached to your total receipt for Nestlings Diaper Bank to get credit.

If you shop at D&W Fresh Market and/or Family Fare grocery stores and would like to continue to help the Nestlings Diaper Bank you can just bring receipts to church and place your receipts in a bag marked NESTLINGS DIAPER BANK RECEIPTS. The receipts will be picked up and delivered to the right people.

**If you have any questions about any of these recycling programs, please contact Dennis Willaman at [willamandennis780@gmail.com](mailto:willamandennis780@gmail.com) or 616-335-2447.**

## SUNDAY SERVANTS – FEBRUARY

### Sunday Servants Needed for February

Please help us fill the spaces. Volunteer to be a Sunday Servant  
 Use the form in the Commons or contact Deb in the office.  
 616.772.4075 or [gslc.office@icloud.com](mailto:gslc.office@icloud.com)

Date	Worship Leader/ Communion Assistant	Reader	Usher	Communion Set- Up/Clean-Up	Counters
<b>Feb 5 5th Sunday of Epiphany</b>	WL - CA-Corinne Becker	Tom Ludwig	Mike Russell	Vicki Russell	1. 2.
<b>Feb. 12 6th Sunday of Epiphany</b>	WL - CA-	Carolyn Willaman			1. 2.
<b>Feb. 19 Transfigura- tion of Our Lord</b>	WL - CA -				1. 2.
<b>Feb. 22 Ash Wednesday</b>	NA		NA	NA	NA
<b>Feb. 26 1st Sunday of Lent</b>	WL - CA -				1. 2.

## CLEANING SUPPLY DONATIONS

### *Cleaning Supplies & Paper Products Needed!*



With no building committee, cleaning supplies and paper products are becoming difficult to keep in stock.

Sign-up sheets are in the Commons with a list of cleaning supplies and paper product needs. Pick an item on the list and put your name next to that item. Purchase your chosen item. Bring the item to the church and place it on the shelf above the coat rack in the hall next to the office or on the floor below. The list will be updated on a regular basis.

Thanks to a generous donor, feminine supplies for the women's restroom have already come in.



# CHURCH CLEANING SCHEDULE

## New Cleaning Schedule

The new cleaning schedule for January 8 - March 4 is below.  
Please take a turn and sign up to clean.

Dates	Name(s)
Weeks of Jan. 8 - 14 Jan. 15 - 21	
Weeks of Jan. 22 - 28 Jan. 29 - Feb. 3	Russells Russells
Weeks of Feb. 5 - 11 Feb. 12 - 18	Ludwigs Ludwigs
Weeks of Feb. 19 - 25 Feb. 25 - Mar. 4	Parrotts Parrotts

Sign-up: 2-week period preferred, however, 1-week period is acceptable. Cleaning includes cleaning all areas of the church building: sanctuary, sacristy, entrance, hallway, bathrooms, kitchen, conference room, nursery and Commons.

To sign-up:

Use the Cleaning Schedule form in the Commons  
or Contact Deb in the office:  
[gslc.office@icloud.com](mailto:gslc.office@icloud.com)  
616.772.4075



## ONLINE ACTIVITIES

### Online Devotions

Join us for a weekly online devotional video that you can find on our YouTube page\* and our Facebook page\* Each week Pastor posts a short devotion where she invites you to “hold space” for a scripture passage, question, topic or ‘wondering’.

\*Find us on YouTube: GSLC Holland, MI

\*Find us on Facebook: Good Shepherd Lutheran Church-ELCA-Holland, MI

<https://www.facebook.com/GoodShepherdLutheranChurchHollandMI>

# FELLOWSHIP — JANUARY 2023

## Fellowship Sign-up.



Treats and Set Up & Clean Up	
February 5, 2023	Corinne Becker
February 12, 2023	
February 19, 2023	
February 26, 2023	

## OUR THANKS AND PRAISE

### *The Measure of our Love*

Computers connected via internet = Families

Total Sunday Attendance: 182

Families: 17

Average Sunday Attendance: 36

Dear GSLC,

Thank you so much for the card and gift card! I appreciate your kindness!

Eve

rec'd Jan 8, 2023



From the Grand Ravine Senior Living  
Staff and Residents:

Thank you so much for all you have done for  
our residents. Cyndi

Thank you, Merry Christmas. Dianne  
Thank you for the wonderful  
Christmas Party.

Laurie K., Todd R., Pat S.

Thanks so much. Pat B.

Thank you. Betty J.

Thank you for this gift of gathering  
and fun. Jacque S.

The thank you card is posted on the board  
in the Commons

rec'd Jan 28, 2023

We just wanted to send a big THANK  
YOU for hosting our Christmas in January  
party. I heard so many wonderful things about  
it yesterday 😊

We appreciate your hard work, effort,  
and kindness in providing this special  
opportunity for our residents!

Thank you and take care, Anna

email rec'd Feb 1, 2023

# February

## Birthdays

Steve Johnson 1  
Caroline Lindsley 1  
Kylie Lindsley 17



## Anniversaries

No Anniversaries on file for  
February

## SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES

Sunday Services and Activities are also on-line.

Sunday Services, 10:00 -11:00 am, also available via YouTube 10:00 am  
Choir Rehearsals, Mondays at 6:30 pm, September - May  
Quilter's Meet, Tuesdays, 10:30 am on site. No Quilting in December.  
Women's Bible Study, Wednesdays, 10:15 am, September - May  
Book Group, 3rd Wednesday of the month, 4:30 pm.

## PASTOR JESS' SCHEDULE



Pastor Jessica is available Monday - Friday  
via phone, text, email and Facebook messenger.

Phone: (616) 403-4660

Email: [pj.gslc@gmail.com](mailto:pj.gslc@gmail.com)

To view Pastor's weekly in-office hours, look on the Breeze  
calendar on our website at [goodshepherdhollandmi.com](http://goodshepherdhollandmi.com)

## COUNCIL MEMBERS

### Church Council Members:

Jessica Bacon, Secretary (920) 889-8706, [jessica.lois.bacon@gmail.com](mailto:jessica.lois.bacon@gmail.com)  
Steve Johnson (616) 212-6833, [sgjcfp@gamil.com](mailto:sgjcfp@gamil.com)  
Vicki Russell (616) 796-8606, [vicki0528@gmail.com](mailto:vicki0528@gmail.com)  
Julie Wolff, Vice President (616) 566-6251, [wolffwife@gmail.com](mailto:wolffwife@gmail.com)

## IN OUR JANUARY PRAYERS

### *In Our January Prayers...*

- ***In Sympathy:*** Tom Ludwig's oldest sister, Eunice had a stroke Wed. Dec. 14, died peacefully Sat. Dec. 17.
- ***In Thanksgiving:*** Dan Ponstein (son of Sally P.) is doing better. Little Elliana Dickinson, 5 mos. has recovered from RSV (Russells grandniece). Carol Grossman (Steve's mother) is now cancer free. Isaac Ludwig (Ludwig's grandson) is healing well from heart surgery and expecting another good report from the surgeon.
- ***Healing/Peace:*** Jamie Andrus, (the Andrus girls father), health issues, Lucas Barton, diagnosed with Dushanes Muscular Dystrophy (son of friends of Julie Wolff), Zach Bergland (Beckers' nephew), Ellie Buggeln fell and has a broken pelvis, Selena Casillas, 8 yrs old-diagnosed with cancer (friend of Ellen Lichtman), Dale Cramer, Bret D'Agostino, Kody De Haan, Diane (close friend of Kris Norvell) at Mayo clinic for treatment for inoperable cancer, Carol Essig (Bret D'Agostino's aunt), Jessie George (Deb P-G's daughter), Grand Ravine Senior Living, they have a Covid outbreak, Carol Grossman (Steve's mother), diagnosed with cancer, Larry Heckel, Gigi Howard, shoulder surgery; Isaac, (Ludwig's 5 yr old grandson), underwent open heart surgery Dec. 5, Cathy Kelly, Jack Klynstra, heart attack, Tiffany Letourneau, diagnosed with breast cancer, Iris Mears, (PJ's godmother), Trudy & Dale Medendorp, (close friends of Vicki R.), Dale diagnosed with stage 4 cancer, Molly (friend of Deb P-G) diagnosed with uterine cancer, Diane Oberlin (former attendee), has cancer, Dan Ponstein (son of Sally P.) health issues, Rita Ponstein, (Sally's sister-in-law), Dorothy Postema, (Deb P-G's mom) heart surgery, Howard Reister diagnosed with cancer (Sally & Ellen's brother), Roland Rivera, Casey Rostos (friend of Norvells), Katherine Slee (friend of Beckers), Russ & Rita Taylor (Julie Wolff's parents), Shelby Visser (Norvells granddaughter) suffered a miscarriage, Som Vixayphone, missionary work in Thailand, Justin Walker (Pastor's husband), Jon Wiening.
- ***Healthy Pregnancy:*** Jessica Palys (friend of Russells).
- ***Assisted Living/Nursing Home/Homebound:*** Christopher St. John (Son of Bonita Zielke), Bonita Zielke,
- ***Serving Our Country:*** John Bounthapanya (Som's nephew), Ryan Felgenhauer, William Felgenhauer, and Evan Felgenhauer (great-nephews of Kerry Johnson), Cortney and Konstantin Ivanov (Gigi Howard's daughter and son-in-law), Koa Rosally (Terry Grossman's grandson), Andrew Wagner (Patricia Bradfield's grandson), Zachery Wiener (Gigi Howard's son-in-law).
- ***Prayer Partners:*** Lebanon Lutheran Church, Rev. Douglas Ogden, Whitehall; Zion Lutheran Church, Rev. Rebecca Ebb-Speese, Woodland; Christ Lutheran Church, Rev. Robert Schmidt, Wyoming; Sudanese Christ Lutheran Church, Rev. Julie Winklepleck, Stated Supply, Wyoming; Feast of Victory Lutheran Church, Rev. Carolyn Heider, Acme.

