



THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA

The Shepherd's Scroll

Preaching, Teaching, and Reaching in Jesus' Name

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK:



For one year during seminary, I was sent to serve a congregation outside of Buffalo, New York. What do you know about Buffalo? Or the Buffalo area? You might think of Niagara Falls, or buffalo chicken wings. You might remember its now faded industrial heritage. Maybe you follow one of their sports teams, like the Bills. But my guess is that one of the first things you think about when you hear “Buffalo” is SNOW! Yes, Buffalo is a snowy place. It’s not the snowiest place in New York, but it’s up there. Buffalo gets an average of 95 inches of snow every year. That’s a lot! Especially compared to us here in Central Illinois who receive an average of only 23 inches (according to U of I weather data).

Most of the snow in that 95-inch snow total is “lake effect” snow. Lake effect snow happens when cooler air passes over the warmer surface of Lake Erie. The lower layer of air, heated by the lake water, picks up water vapor from the lake and rises through colder air. The vapor then freezes and is deposited on the downwind shores.

And yes, that process can produce large snowfalls, like we saw before the “Snow Bowl” just after Thanksgiving, when the Bills played the 49ers and fans came early to shovel out the seats.... But, truly, Buffalo only has about 8 days a year where there is significant snowfall. What adds up the snow totals is daily lake effect snow. That process of cooler air over warmer water is a prevailing pattern, so it produces snow almost every day, meaning there is rarely a day when it doesn’t snow between .1 and 2 inches. Those are not huge quantities, but it is just enough to keep every tree and fence post, every Christmas decoration and lamppost – everything – dusted with fresh, picture-perfect snow. It’s frankly beautiful. And very unlike the slushy, grey mess that most others get in the days following snow. That little bit of snow every day doesn’t really affect driving or people getting around – it is Buffalo, and they know how to deal with snow - but it does keep everything sparkling-winter-pretty.

On January 12th, we will celebrate the Baptism of our Lord. During worship that morning, we’ll get to remember our baptisms. The ceremony is full of both meaning and joy, and included

within the words we'll use is the reminder that we can (and should) remember our baptism every day. Every day we can turn away from the powers of evil. Every day we can "die to sin" and "rise to new life" Every day we can remember that we are claimed by God, beloved children of the Almighty. Every day we can have a new beginning and a fresh start. Every day we can be forgiven and made whole. Every day we can celebrate Jesus' gift which creates the way for us to walk with God, now and forever. Every day we can feel newly baptized, fresh from the font, dripping with God's grace and love.

And unlike the snow in Buffalo, that every day repetition doesn't just bury old layers under new ones. Remembering our baptism, remembering that we are beloved, confessing our sin and hearing God's forgiveness takes away those old layers entirely. And every single day can feel – can be – fresh, beautiful, sparkling with God's love.

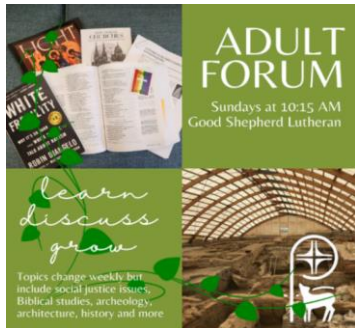
I hope it's snowing as you read this – some of those 23 inches we get a year. But, even more, I hope that you remember your baptism both today and with your church community on January 12th. May you rejoice that you are made new through Christ every single day – no lake effect needed.

Peace and love in that same Jesus Christ,
Pastor Lynette Chapman

WORSHIP NEWS

January 5 – Epiphany Lessons and Carols – singing all of the greats about the magi and the star!

January 12th – Baptism of our Lord – remember your baptism and celebrate your identity in Christ.



ADULT FORUM TOPICS

January 12 – God’s Work in Our Stories
Susannah Scaroni discusses her life as a student, a professional

athlete, a registered dietitian, and everything in between.

We’ll watch a *WILL Prairie Fire* episode on her to get things started.

January 19 – Advanced Care Planning for You and Your Family - Danna Williamson, RN, and Greg Scott join us from Faith Community Health Services, a local program managed by Carle Health.

They lead a discussion on the advantages and value of planning ahead for health care decisions.

January 26 – C-U at Home’s Executive Director, Melissa Courtright, joins us to discuss their faith-based mission that supports and empowers individuals who are experiencing homelessness.

One Winter Night, their annual fundraiser, is February 7 & 8, and GSLC is participating as a sleepout location and team.



SUNDAY SCHOOL 2ND-5TH SUNDAY MORNINGS 10:15AM

Classes for K-3,
4-6, and 7-12.

If you’re interested in teaching, talk to Pastor Lynette or Susan Hinrichs.

Please note: There will not be Cross+Gen, Adult Forum, or Sunday School on Sunday, January 5.

SMALL GROUPS @ GSLC



DWELLING TOGETHER

**2ND -5TH Sundays
10:15AM**

Sit down for a chat, a conversation about a Bible passage, mutual support and prayer. Meets in the Small Group Room near the Library. Led by Sue Plisch.



GSLC PIECE MAKERS

**Tuesdays
12-3PM**

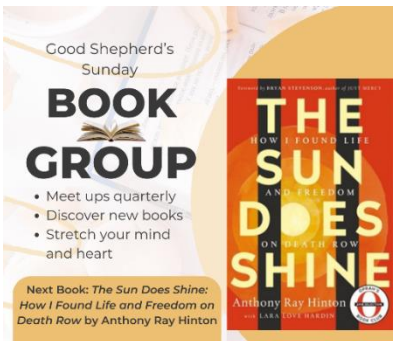
GSLC Quilt Room

Sewing experience is NOT needed in order to participate. Most of our time is spent sorting, cutting, and ironing fabric. There are jobs for every skill level! All are welcome! Contact Lois McConomy or Jodi Davis for more info.

FELLOWSHIP EVENTS

Save the Date - Celebration Brunch

Plan to join in the celebration of the 25th anniversary of Pastor Lynette's ordination at a brunch in the Fellowship Hall at **10:30 am on Sunday, April 6**. More details will be sent out in the next few months.



**GSLC BOOK GROUP
HAS BEEN
POSTPONED
NEW DATE TO BE
DETERMINED**



WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDIES

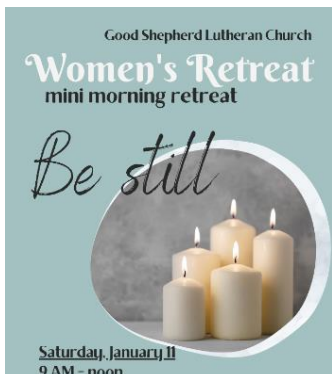


**Groups meet in
Choir Room
All women are
welcome!**

**Ruth Bible Study:
Tuesday, January 21 9:30AM**

**Rachel Bible Study:
Monday, January 27, 10:30AM**

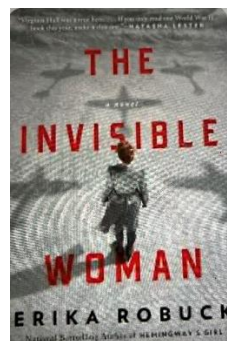
COMMUNITY OUTREACH



**WOMEN'S WINTER
RETREAT
Saturday, January 11
9AM-Noon**

Be warmed and restored. Be still and know God's presence.

You are invited to a free morning retreat. Led by Ruth Mytty and Nancy Olson, with help from Pastor Lynette, this retreat will explore ideas and habits for finding stillness and intentionality in the midst of everyday life, and especially in times of stress and anxiety. Open to all women from Good Shepherd as well as family and friends. Sign-up sheet in the narthex or call the church office. Light breakfast and coffee provided.



**WELCA BOOK CLUB
Thursday
January 9, 9:30AM
GSLC Choir Room
The Invisible Woman
By Erika Robuck**

This novel explores the horrific life of an American spy in Nazi occupation France. A gripping historical novel based on a remarkable true World War II heroine story of Virginia Hall. She never wanted the debutante life of ball gowns and silk gloves of young society women back in Baltimore. Instead, she traded a safe life for adventures in Europe. She exhibits immense courage and daring when recruited as an Allied spy.

Questions, contact Jan Nuss.

MANY THANKS!

A very big 'Thank You' for all the cookie donations and those that filled the tins and delivered the tins for our 80 and over members!

Our members were very appreciative of receiving the delicious cookies!

LEADER NEEDED FOR LWR PERSONAL CARE KITS COLLECTION

Gail Block often has led the collection of supplies for LWR personal care kits in the past but won't be available to do that this coming year. Please contact Gail if you would be interested in leading this effort either this spring or fall and she can tell you the details of what is involved. Often, she has also organized a women's brunch on a Saturday in May for packing the personal care kits but that could be a separate task if someone else would like to do that part. This collection and packing of kits could also be done in the fall if preferred. WELCA does not send the kits to LWR until the end of October.



Are you or a member of your family or friends in what we refer to as, the "twilight years of our lives"?

We have experienced losses: This could be death of a family member, maybe a change in our eyesight, hearing, or our mobility not like it used to be. These things can make us angry, frustrated, or just plain sad.

Some of us may ask what can I do or even how can I help fix our broken country?

1 Timothy 2 tell us: "The first thing I want you to do is pray. Pray every way you know how, for everyone you know. Pray especially for rulers and their governments to rule well so we can go quietly about our business of living simply, in humble contemplation. This is the way our Savior God wants us to live."

We can say a kind word, we can smile, we can allow others to feel good by helping us and we can help others. We are still here, for God has a purpose for us all. We have all been given different gifts and we can use them for good. If we all do something, we can change the world. So, I leave you with this – what can you do?

Shared by Sandy Reifsteck RN, FCN, Parish Nurse, GSLC

Adapted from Valley Presbyterian Church, Green Valley, Arizona.

YOUTH NEWS



GOOD SHEPHERD GOD SQUAD

7th-12th grades

Saturday
January 11
6-8PM

Branch prep for Baptism of our Lord, devotions, and (maybe – if there's snow) some outdoor games – dress for the weather! But hot cocoa and warm food will also be available.



**GOOD SHEPHERD
YOUTH CLUB**

3rd-6th grades

**Saturday
January 25
4-6PM**

We'll have indoor games of all sorts, devotions, Souper Bowl prep and more!



Good Shepherd families are invited to play broomball **January 5** at the University of Illinois Ice Arena at **4:30pm**. We will be joining Faith United Methodist Church for a fun game of broomball. No experience needed. All are welcome. Contact Susan Hinrichs (shinrich@ieeee.org) if you have any questions.

Operation Turkey Sandwich



**SKI TRIP
January 24-26**

Join families of Good Shepherd for a ski trip. We

plan to drive up Friday evening, spend all Saturday skiing, and return Sunday after breakfast and fellowship.

Contact Eric Brucker if you are interested.



Christmas Program "Christmas Isn't Christmas"



Christmas Cantata



JANUARY SERVING SCHEDULE

	01/05/2025	01/12/2025	01/19/2025	01/26/2025
Acolyte	Jake·Brucker	Levi·Todd	Zechariah·Fisher	Declan·O'Connell
Communion· Assistant	Becky·Fisher	Becky·Cook	Rebecca·Nef· Heffernan	Tim·O'Connell
	Ash·Waller	Dylan·Keene	Cinda·Brucker	Nancy·Olson
	Gail·Block	Marla·Todd	Nancy·Holm	Tori·Corkery
Reader	Bob·Coverdill	John·Todd	Susannah·Scaroni	Dan·Corkery
Chancel·Care	Beth·Followell	Beth·Followell	Mary·Szyszka	Mary·Szyszka
Food·Delivery	Rick·&·Cindy·Marrs	Jodi·Davis·&·Vickie· Wilson	Gail·&·Don·Block	Agatha·Barnes
Flower·Delivery	Dean·Olson	Jenelle·Keene	Deb·Swanson	Carol·Steinman
Nursery	Amy·Chamley	Jenelle·Keene	Marla·Todd	Lisa·Young
Coffee/Donuts	Nancy·Holm·&·Jim· Manley	Don·Block·&·Lisa·Young	Don·Block·&·Nancy· Olson	Don·Block·&·Samantha· Fisher
Usher	Nancy·McCowen	Andrew·Todd	Dean·Olson	Agatha·Barnes
Livestream	Darrell·Hoemann	Darrell·Hoemann	Darrell·Hoemann	Darrell·Hoemann

If you are interested in serving as a volunteer on Sunday mornings, please contact Traci in the church office at staff@gslc-cu.org to be added to our volunteer list.



Pastor	Lynette Chapman
Parish Admin. Asst.	Traci Shepherd
Treasurer	Bob Clark
Keyboardist	Leon Harrell
Choir Director	Julia Hartman
Custodian	Dennis Lage
Parish Nurses	Sandy Reifsteck Elizabeth Kakoma Celeste Coverdill

OFFICE HOURS:
Monday – Thursday
8:00AM – 3:00PM
&
Friday 8:00AM-Noon

Deadline for Scroll is the 15th of every month.

***Bulletin / Announcement / Shout Out Deadline is Wednesday at noon
each week.***

***If you would like to receive a printed copy of the Scroll, please contact Traci at staff@gslc-cu.org.
Paper copies are also available at the church.***



