



Lenten Lessons and Conversations

Greetings in Christ!

This coming Wednesday is the beginning of the season of Lent in the Church year. During the season of Lent our scripture readings address themes like our relationship with God through Christ, what keeps us from trusting in God fully and how God desires to be in relationship with us. This Lenten season we will not only be exploring themes of how God wants us to be in relationship with Him and with one another, we will explore how God invites us to show up in the world as individuals and as a faith community.

We are offering an Adult Forum on Lessons from Dietrich Bonhoeffer Sundays after worship. Dietrich Bonhoeffer was a Pastor in Germany during the rise of Nazism and World War II who became part of the Confessing Church movement and the resistance against the Nazi's. Bonhoeffer wrote extensively about how his faith compelled him to love his neighbor and to work for the good of those who are most vulnerable in our society. Through his writings, we will explore how we are called to love and serve our neighbor today. We will also explore how we, as a faith community, can be present as the body of Christ for our neighbors. At our recent annual meeting, we shared that we are seeking the congregation's input on how we spend our energy and resources for ministry. During this season of Lent, we will be gathering together Wednesday evenings from 6-7 pm to share a simple soup supper and engage in conversations about how Good Shepherd shows up in our community. Our first soup supper will be on March 12 and catered by Z! Eats, We will have a sign-up for the following Wednesdays if you are interested in bringing a soup to share.

It is my prayer for this Lenten season that we, as a faith community, not only grow in faith but that we strengthen our connection to one another and to our community. May the Holy Spirit guide us in our journey.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Jess



LENTEN SCHEDULE



Ash Wednesday, March 5, 2025

12:00 - 2:00 pm: Drive through Imposition of Ashes
with Pastor Jess.

7:00 pm: Ash Wednesday Worship Service.

Lenten Soup Suppers - Wednesdays

6:00 - 6:50 pm: March 12, 19, 26,
and April 2 & 9, 2025
(before Holden Evening Prayer)



Holden Evening Prayer - Wednesdays

7:00 pm: March 12, 19, 26,
and April 2 & 9, 2025



Palm Sunday Service

10:00 am: April, 13, 2025



Maundy Thursday Service

7:00 pm: April 17, 2025

Good Friday Service

7:00 pm: April 18, 2025



DEITRICH BONHOEFFER - LENTEN CLASS



Lessons from Deitrich Bonhoeffer in a House Divided and a World on Fire

Sundays during Lent, 11:20-12:30
Starting March 9, 2025

Together we will learn about the life and faith of one of the most celebrated martyrs of the Lutheran Church, Deitrich Bonhoeffer.

If you are interested, please sign up on the sheet in the Commons so we know how many participant books to make.

2025 ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING



Annual Congregational Meeting

Thank you to all members who attended!

Elected to Council: Suzanne House and Mike Russell
Attending Synod: Bill and Suzanne House

Comments from council:

The meeting was very successful today. I think we had good coverage of the topics we have been reviewing at Council and had good engagement from the congregation. A big thank you to Brian, Mike, and Pastor Jessica for leading the discussion!

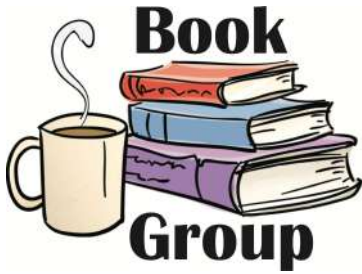
DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS



Move your clocks forward
2:00 am
March 9, 2025

BOOK GROUP NEWS

March Selection: *Lady Tan's Circle of Women* by Lisa See



Tan Yunxian, is born into an elite family in 15th century China. At a very young age her mother begins to teach her about the phases of a woman's life and about how to be a proper wife in an elite 15th century family. When her mother dies unexpectedly she is sent to be raised by her grandparents. Her grandmother, one of very few female doctors in China, trains Tan Yunxian alongside Meiling a young midwife-in-training. She and Meiling vow to be friends forever. Life changes again for Yunxian when she is sent into an arranged marriage and forbidden to see Meiling.

Our discussion will be **Tuesday March 18** at 4:30. This is a change from our normal Wednesday meeting date. Contact Vicki Russell if you have any questions.

PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

The Measure of Our Love

Computers connected via internet = Families
Total Sunday Attendance: 177
Families: 12
Average Sunday Attendance: 44



BREEZE ACCESS

Breeze Access



Breeze is the church management software system that we use to maintain records for Good Shepherd.

If you are a member or a regular attender you may have access to sections of Breeze. Within Breeze you could access other Good Shepherd people to locate their address, phone number or email address should you wish to contact them.

You also have access to online giving, to set up recurring giving, manage your giving weekly or monthly, or check your own giving record.

There also is an events tab that allows you to see dates and times for events, office hours, or Pastor's available time in her office.

If you wish to receive an invitation to join our secure Breeze group or if you have any questions, see Vicki Russell or Elliott Eisaman who are happy to provide a preview or send you an invitation.

COMMUNITY ACTION HOUSE



l-r, Pastor Jess, Suzanne House and Carolyn Willaman with some of the donations

Thank You!

Thank you to everyone who donated food and winter gear for Community Action House. Much of the winter gear was transferred to CAH upon arrival due to the extreme low temperatures we were experiencing and the high need for such items.

Winter gear donations included blankets, socks, hats, sleeping bags, coats, and snow pants.



NOISY OFFERING

March/April Noisy Offering

Kids' Food Basket



“Our mission is to nourish children to reach their full potential. To realize a hunger-free West Michigan for all children, we must work together as one community.

We increase healthy food access for our communities through the growth and distribution of sustainably grown vegetables and fruits on our chemical-free farms.” (from kidsfoodbasket.org)

Thousands of servings of fresh veggies and fruits are packed in the “Sack Suppers” that are sent home with children each school day.



Food Sack Project

Adding a Touch of Love to Sack Suppers

Along with our Noisy Offering gift we will also be donating decorated lunch bags. Some ideas for decorating include your favorite animals or pets, rainbows, shapes or inspiring words. Inspiring words can be “Your are Amazing”, “Be Somebody Who Makes Everybody Feel Like A Somebody” “Always treat others the way you want to be treated” or “I am brave, I am kind, I am strong, I am smart, I am helpful.” This project can be done at church or at home. Sacks and information sheets are on a table in the Commons.

What you'll need:

Brown or white 8lb lunch sacks, crayons or markers
(sacks are available in the Commons)

What to skip:

Avoid using paint, glitter, feathers or stickers. They tend to come off and mix with the food that gets packed in the bags.

Not accepted:

Any bags with religious or political symbols or messages since many Sack Suppers go to public schools.

Mission and Outreach Committee

Carolyn, Suzanne, Branden, Julie, and Pastor Jessica

SUNDAY SERVANTS

Sunday Servants Needed for March

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

Date	Worship Leader/ Communion Assistant	Reader(s)	Usher	Communion Set-Up/ Clean-Up
March 2 Transfiguration of Our Lord	WL- Brian Underhill CA-	Eric Mueller		Deb Ludwig
March 9 1st Sunday of Lent	WL - CA-	Branden Bacon		Mary Sue Dawsey
March 16 2nd Sunday of Lent	WL - CA-			
March 23 3rd Sunday of Lent	WL - Tom Ludwig CA - Tom Ludwig			Deb Ludwig
March 30 4th Sunday of Lent	WL - CA -	Tom Ludwig		Deb Ludwig

FELLOWSHIP SIGN-UP - MARCH

Fellowship Sign-up.



Treats and Set Up & Clean Up	
March 2 2025	Bacons
March 9, 2025	
March 16, 2025	
March 23, 2025	
March 30, 2025	

MARCH

Birthdays

Shane Hurt 2
Patricia Bradfield 11
Tessa Hurt 12
Kerry Johnson 15
Mary Sue Dawson 27
Jonas Pearson 27



Anniversaries

Jon & Tessa Hurt 25

SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES

Sunday Services are also on-line.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87525508195?pwd=MmtjVENGaUg3ODFuaXhhUHR1TVR3Zz09>

Meeting ID: 875 2550 8195

Passcode: 022399

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

PASTOR JESS' SCHEDULE



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

Phone: (616) 403-4660

Email: pj.gslc@gmail.com

To view Pastor's weekly in-office hours, look on the Breeze
calendar on our website at goodshepherdhollandmi.com

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Church Council Members:

Branden Bacon	(920) 889-8707, branden.bacon@gmail.com
Dylana Eisaman	(616) 953-0603, dylana.pinter@gmail.com
Suzanne House	(616) 655-9732 wlsmhouse@icloud.com
Michael Russell	(616) 283-6723 miker163@yahoo.com
Brian Underhill	(616) 292-7194, underhillbrian@yahoo.com
Pastor Jess	(616) 403-4660, pj.gslc@gmail.com

IN OUR FEBRUARY PRAYERS

In Our February Prayers...

- **Ministry of the Month, February:** Community Action House and Our Annual Meeting.
- **Healing/Peace:** Kirk & Roberta Addis, (decades long friends of Norvells), Kirk's treatments for liver and bone cancer causing severe side effects, Andrew (Cathy Sytsma's nephew), dealing with neurological condition, Lucas Barton, diagnosed with Dushanes Muscular Dystrophy (son of friends of Julie Wolff), Zach Bergland (Beckers' nephew), Greg Bolton, (friend of Julie Wolff), Gary Bowman, Patricia Bradfield, Tom & Elizabeth Brookover, (friends of the Wentz') Tom has a rare form of ocular cancer, Dylan Brophy, age 26, (nephew of Kris Norvell's friend), stage 4 melanoma, Bret D'Agostino, Mark DeGraaf, stage 4 cancer, Diane (close friend of Kris Norvell) for new cancer treatment success, Steven Dwyer (Lynda Parrott's cousin), John & Amber Fanthorpe (friends of Russells) John is recovering from brain surgery, Jayce Genzinger (Tammy Walter's step-niece's son) born preemie in July, twin died, needs our prayers, Jessie George (Deb P-G's daughter), Rick House, Tessa Hurt (out-of-town member) diagnosed with Myelofibrosis, Jan (Cathy Sytsma's sister), cancer diagnosis, Steve Johnson, foot surgery recovery, Beth Lefever (friend of Tammy Walters) for housing and employment as she returns to the Holland Area. Tiffany Letourneau, being treated for breast cancer, Jan Mahalak, back surgery, will take several weeks for recovery, Iris Mears, (PJ's godmother), Richard Mueller (Terry Grossman's dad), surgery, Diane Oberlin (former attendee) has cancer, Nathan (Sally Ponstein's grandson), surgery complete, healing well, pray for continued recovery, Perry Pearson, ankle surgery recovery, Melissa Redding (grdaughter of Lois Robinson) lower back surgery, Roland Rivera, Casey Rosel (Norvell in-law relation) diagnosed with cancer in her skull, surgery occurred July 9, Greg Russell (Mike's brother) diagnosed with cancer, Janice Russell (Mike's sister-in-law) cancer diagnosis, Jerry Shoup, Kathy Shoup, surgery for broken femur, Katherine Slee (friend of Beckers), Claire Smith (Norvell's grandniece) recovery from transplant surgery, Stella, 6 yrs old, (Sally Ponstein's friends grdaughter) needs a kidney transplant, Suzanne (Ellie's daughter) prayers for resolution of gastrointestinal problems, Rick Taylor, (Julie Wolff's cousin), heart surgery at the Mayo Clinic, Russ & Rita Taylor (Julie Wolff's parents), Sara Thompson (Corinne's friend) cancer diagnosis, Justin Walker (Pastor's husband), Julia Wentz, chemotherapy treatments,.
- **Healthy Pregnancy:** Madison Visser, (Norvell's granddaughter).
- **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), Mitchell Johnson (Parrott's nephew), Zachery Wiesner (Gigi Howard's son-in-law).
- **Prayer Partners:** Zion Lutheran Church, Rev. Scott Torkko, Cadillac; Rev. Chrysy Bright, Assistant to the Bishop, Lower North/West Michigan Synod; Peace Lutheran Church, Rev. Neil Brady, Charlotte; St. Thomas Evangelical Lutheran Church, Rev. David Hueter, Cheboygan; Zion Lutheran Church, Rev. Julie Schneider-Thomas, Comstock Park.