

February 2017

The Parish Door

A publication of Shepherd of the Bay Lutheran

A Stephen Ministry Congregation

(920) 854-2988

shepherdofthebay.org

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Lenten Season Begins

Lent 2018 is quickly upon us, with Ash Wednesday falling on February 14. This year, at Shepherd of the Bay, we're going to extend the celebration of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation into our lenten observance. Our reflections will provide us opportunity to reflect again on Martin Luther's

Small Catechism. This gem of Christian literature was designed as a teaching tool of the faith, not just within the church but in the home. Luther intended the home to be the place where faith was first shared and taught. To that end, he created the Small Catechism, a simple explanation of the Ten Commandments, the Creed, the Lord's Prayer, and the sacraments of Baptism and the Lord's Supper. He included basic prayers for morning and evening, and suggested ways to worship and honor God during each part of the day.

We will be blessed once again to have the confirmation students leading our midweek Lenten worship. The schedule is as follows:

February 14 Ash Wednesday service with Imposition of Ashes and Holy Communion

February 21 Evening Prayer with reflection on the Ten Commandments

February 28 Evening Prayer with reflection on the Apostles' Creed

March 7 Evening Prayer with reflection on the Lord's Prayer

March 14 Evening Prayer with reflection on Holy Baptism

March 21 Evening Prayer with reflection on Holy Communion

Each service will begin at 7:00pm and excluding Ash Wednesday, will last about 1/2 hour. All services will be preceded by supper in Fellowship Hall at 6:00. Mark your calendars and make plans to join us.

All Services Preceded by a Warm Meal

Come and enjoy a good hot meal in the middle of winter which you don't have to cook. Cost is \$5.00 per person with children 10 and younger eating for free!

There will be a different menu every Wednesday night starting with a soup and bread buffet with cheesecake for dessert on Ash Wednesday. Other meals will include Lasagna, Meatballs, Taco bar, and Empanadas. All meals include beverage and dessert.

The proceeds from each meal will help fund Youth Camps, Guatemala missions and other activities of the church.

All Meals Start at 6:00PM and the Services at 7:00PM



With two sons who ran competitively through high school, and one through college, I've spent a fair bit of time around athletes and coaches. It was fun watching the development, not only of my own sons, but of some of the other guys on their teams. I remember making a comment to the head track coach about one young athlete in particular. In responding, the coach paid him one of the greatest compliments a coach could make. He told me, "He's one of the most coachable young men I've ever coached."

To be coachable is to admit that you don't have all the answers, that there's room for growth, and that the answers that come from outside yourself may be better than the ones you dream up from within.

Are we coachable in our Christian life?

In Philippians 2, Paul uses a great hymn on the humanity and divinity of Jesus to encourage the Philippian Christians to live an *in-Christ Life*. As Christ emptied himself of his divine power for the sake of walking the road of suffering and death to accomplish redemption, so the people of God live a life of thanksgiving and servant-hood because God has made us God's own in Christ.

The *in-Christ Life*, Paul says, is a life of being coachable, of humility. It means placing ourselves under the shaping influence of the scriptures, of the community of our faith, even of our communal worship life. It means sometimes putting our own needs and hopes in the back seat for the sake of the needs of our neighbor or our brother or sister in Christ.

I keep wondering how we can cultivate this discipline of coachable humility. How can we consciously and decisively place ourselves under the molding and shaping influence of the community of faith in which we live? I'm thinking that part of the answer is to begin asking ourselves different questions. Instead of asking, "Do I like this?" or "Does this meet my needs?" we could begin asking questions like this: "What is God teaching me? How is God shaping me? What changes do I need to make?"

As we enter into the season of Lent, this might be a good time to practice the disciplines of humility. The prayer and service and self-denial that characterize the Lenten season are not for the sake of cultivating a spiritual pride, as in, "Look what I can do for God!" They are rather for the sake of putting ourselves – emotionally, spiritually, and physically – into a place where God can hone and sharpen our character so that we do live more a Christ-like life, the *in-Christ Life*.

The Sunday liturgy is a good example of how this happens. The liturgy we celebrate each Sunday has a baptismal shape. In a repeating cycle, the flow proceeds from God to us, and then from us back to God. Through the weekly repetition of the word from God to us and then our words back to God, we are molded and shaped. While it is true that issues of personal taste can't be fully taken out of our Sunday morning worship experience, personal likes and dislikes are not really the point. The point is to place ourselves under the influence of the Spirit, knowing that God intends to make for God's self a people. To come into worship prayerfully, expectantly, and humbly places us in a far different posture than to come in wondering if I'm going to like the hymns or if the sermon will entertain me.

I'm encouraging you this lent to adopt a new set of questions: Where is God in my life? What are the growing edges of my life? What is God teaching me? How does God intend to use me? Where does my Christian character need to change and grow? What avenues of service is God opening for me and calling me to do? How am I being called to reorient my time and abilities and resources for God's sake?

A blessed Lenten season to all of you! May you all experience the blessing of God's molding and shaping you so that you more fully live the *In-Christ Life*.

Peace,
Pr. Jim Honig

Notes from the President

I am writing this before our annual meeting, but by the time you read this, our new council officers will be elected. These folks are a great mix of experience and expertise, and they are committed to a strong and welcoming church. Thank you council members, Alicia Kropuenske, Holly Thomas, Barb Meyer, Carl Jackson, Ron Hupe, John Skogsbakken, Scott Henry, Jenny Sitte, and new members Scott Eckdahl and Cheryl Becht! I know we will all support this group as we move forward.

An enormous thanks goes to Greg Casperson whose term on council has just ended. Greg is one of those special leaders who never forgets the details of what needs doing, what was done once, and what could improve our church even more. He has selflessly served on councils many times in the past. It was a pleasure to join the council with him. It is a blessing to have his unique engagement in our congregation. I suspect that just because he left council, he won't stop thinking of these details and working to make changes.

Ron Hupe has been our treasurer for many years, and he updated accounting methods and tools, sometimes by designing his own software. When things run so smoothly, we can sometimes not understand the full impact of Ron's work. He is a fantastic numbers man! Thank you, Ron, for the many hours you spend every week to keep the administration of the church smooth.

What lies ahead? I am confident we will see great opportunities to serve within our walls and in our community. We're a hardworking and engaged group, and it will be fun to be a part of it! Thank you!

See you in church-
Grace Rossman
Past President, Church Council

News from the Concert Series Committee

As spring and summer quickly approach, we would like to take this opportunity to give you a glimpse of what we believe will be an exciting 2018 concert season here at Shepherd of the Bay. Among our solo artists represented for this year are two young rising stars, Stuart Suter on oboe and Katie Moss performing on the Dobson organ. We will be delighted by the sounds of the returning Chicago Lyric Singers who will join our own Judy Jackson in a delightful evening of song. We will also have the privilege of hearing the spectacular artistry of the Milwaukee Handbell Ensemble. And, of course, you will hear from our own Shepherd of the Bay musicians as they present an hour program of music reflecting on the Lenten season. To close out our 2018 season, Shepherd of the Bay principal organist, Greg Beem, will present a program of organ music, once again, bringing to life the sounds of our beautiful Dobson organ.

While we believe this will be an exciting concert season here at Shepherd of the Bay, it will not be complete without your presence and support. Your support, whether it be financial sponsorship, providing housing, helping with the reception, or just providing a smile of hospitality, is always welcome and appreciated. We look forward to your part in helping us make this another successful musical season for 2018!

Sun., March 18 at 3:00 pm	Lenten Refections
Sat., April 14 at 7:00 pm	Stuart Suter, Oboe
Sat., May 19 at 7:00pm	Bobby Valentine
Sat., May 26 at 7:00 pm	Chicago Lyric Singers
Fri., June 22 at 7:00 pm	Milwaukee Handbells
Sat., July 21 at 7:00 pm	Katie Moss, organ
Sat., Sept. 22 at 7:00 pm	Greg Beem, organ

World Marketplace

World Marketplace is still looking for someone to help take over this project. In the meantime, Carol Omernick has taken over the ordering of Fair Trade Coffee, Chocolate bars, etc. We now offer 14 different kinds of ground coffee including seasonal coffees from Guatemala and Haiti, individual K-cup Coffee, 15 different kinds of Chocolate Bars and 7 different kinds of Tea.

A special sale was held in the month of December. Proceeds from the sale of Maya Works items was donated to the SOTB Guatemala Mission Trip and all other proceeds were donated to Hurricane Relief in Puerto Rico. We raised enough money to give each group \$1000.

Even though the World Marketplace is smaller in scale, our main goal is still to help struggling artists around the world.

***Need a Valentine's Day Gift?
Fair trade chocolate, coffee and tea make great gifts!***



On a sad note, our Thursday morning quilting group has lost a long time member, Jackie Hoekstra. Jackie was a faithful member, almost never missing a meeting. In 2013 she decided to also start knitting sweaters for World Vision. In the next 4 years she knitted dozens of sweaters. She will be missed not only by her fellow quilters, but by all the hundreds of people around the world who received a quilt. On behalf of WELCA, I extend my sympathy to her family and friends. "Well done thou good and faithful servant."

The quilters have been busy. They have completed 44 quilts since they resumed last fall! They would love to have you join them. They have jobs for people who sew and those who don't. It is a time of great fellowship and fun. I hear they have a good soup lunch also.

FEBRUARY EVENTS

- 5, 12, 19, 26 — BIBLE STUDY WITH KEN - 9:00 —PARLOR
- 1, 8, 15, 22 —MISSION PROJECTS - 9:15 — 2:00 - FELLOWSHIP HALL
- 13 — BOARD MEETING- 1:00 — PARLOR
- 15 — BOOK GROUP DISCUSSION 9:30 - SOTB PARLOR
- 20 — VERNAMAE'S BIBLE STUDY- 1:00 — PLACE TBA

AND OPPORTUNITIES

ATTEND a BIBLE STUDY with Ken on Mondays or on Tuesday, Feb. 20 with Vernamae.

PRAYER SQUARES are FREE and available in the Narthex. Take one for yourself and for friends to remind you to pray when you touch it in your purse or pocket.

PRAYER CHAIN is for you to request prayers to be raised up by our Prayer Chain members. Contact Bonnie Hanson or Carol Omernick for prayer requests.

Don't forget to use the **CHANGE BUCKET**- you can make a change in someone's life by putting a donation in the CHANGE BUCKET on Sunday during the Fellowship Hour. Your donation goes to the local Food Pantries and not for coffee at the coffee hour.

SOCIAL 6 will be starting again for February, March and April. Contact Carolyn Hitzeman or Cathy Mangan if interested.

40 DAYS OF GIVING will begin during Lent. Watch for more information in the Narthex.



SOCIAL 6 groups have formed for March and April group meetings. If you would like to join a group be sure to contact Carolyn Hitzeman at 854-5052. **SOCIAL 6** groups meet once a month over these winter months for a meal and Christian Fellowship.

Sign up for the months you are here in Door County during these months and take this opportunity to get to know other members of our congregation and enjoy a delicious meal.

The **WELCA** February Board meeting will be held February 13.

The Board would love to have interested members attend and find out all the ways we strive to help others.



MEAL MINISTRY contact for FEBRUARY is

MARY KAY VARTANIAN
854-9150 or 421-2925

If you know of a family or individual who could use our attention for providing a meal when in need or would like your name added to the list of women willing to prepare and deliver meals, please call: PAT SKOGSBAKKEN at 854-1133.



Two of our ladies will be receiving roses this month:

Magdalene VonZychlin, 94
on Feb 14

Jean Swanson, 97
on Feb. 23.

A very Happy Birthday
to you both!



WELCA Book Group

We will meet in the church parlor at 9:30am for the next three months. For more information about the book group or if you would like to join, contact Gretchen Farwell at gfarwell@gmail.com.

Thursday, February 15 in the church parlor

The current Door County READ selection for this year, The Latecomer; a Hmong Family Memoir, by Kao Kalia Yang. A captivating memoir about a family's "harrowing escape" from Laos and their eventual settlement in Minnesota. You might want to place a hold on the book as soon as possible in the OWLSnet Library system. The note says that "More copies have been ordered", so it would be good for them to know of the demand. A couple of our members have the book, so there may be some to share. *Please add this book to your list of books for the year.*

Thursday, March 15 in the church parlor

Just Mercy, by Bryan Stevenson.

Story of justice and redemption – a memoir (2014) - “ When Stevenson was a 23-year-old Harvard law student, he started an internship in Georgia where his first assignment was to deliver a message to a man living on death row. This assignment became his calling: representing the innocent, the inadequately defended, the children, the domestic abuse survivors, the mentally ill—the imprisoned. – features the story of a man who was on death row for six years.”

Thursday, April 19 in the church parlor

What Alice Forgot, by Liane Moriarty - a novel about a woman who "loses" 10 years of her life through amnesia. (2011)

You might want to place a HOLD in the Library System - <https://www.infosoup.org> - especially for the Yang and Moriarty books. You just need to use your Library Card and your PIN number to reserve a book. If you do not have a PIN number, there are instructions on the website on how to create one. OR you could call your local library for assistance.

Happy Reading!

Gretchen Farwell

Donations Requested

Hello! My name is Ava Hitzeman, and for my senior project I am collecting donations for Golden House, a domestic abuse shelter in Green Bay. The other aspect of my project was facilitating a self-defense class for girls in high school, and I partnered up with Herb Blue's Total Self-Defense to teach the class. It was empowering to participate in the class, as well as to see the girls grow in their confidence of themselves and their self defense knowledge throughout the class. I will be collecting donations until February 23rd, and there will be a donation box at the church. Golden House requests that all items please be new. Thank you!

Immediate Need Items

Body wash
Laundry Detergent
Washcloths
Diapers size (4&5)
Cold medications (adult/child)
Paper towels

Grocery

Baby Formula
Coffee/creamer
Crackers
Canned meat/fish
Hamburger Helper
Laundry baskets
Tote bags
Bath towels

Personal Hygiene

Pain relievers (Advil, Tylenol etc)
Ethnic hair care products
Hair conditioner
Hair brushes
Antibiotic ointment
Liquid hand soap
Kid's shampoo
Children/Infant's socks
Baby wipes
Pedialyte
Women's socks
Feminine protection items
Women's underwear/bras

Office Supplies

General office supplies
Batteries
Journals

Kitchen Items

All-purpose Cleaner
Laundry Detergent
Disinfecting Wipes
Tall Kitchen/ Heavy duty garbage Bags
Bleach
Glass Cleaner
Paper towels
Disposable Gloves
Toilet Bowl cleaner

Kitchen

Disposable Plates
Disposable silverware
Plastic wrap/Aluminum Foil
Plastic drinking cups
Dishcloths
Dish soap



Little Lambs bringing gifts to baby Jesus



Confirmation Youth and Wonderful Wednesday Children making tiles to benefit Peninsula Art School and Northern Door Childcare Center



Youth and Family Ministry News from Jane Burress



Quilts for the high school graduates made by the Wonderful Wednesday Children



above: High school youth are participating in the 30 Hour Famine. To support their efforts, checks should be written to World Vision and sent to church by February 7. Thank you to Pastor Jim for appearing as our mystery guest in January.



Little lambs enjoying a pool party.

Thank you Eloise Lindem, Grace Rossman & Carol Williams for helping with set up and clean up.



Our first family event went well. Thank you to Jeremy Schwab and Pastor Jim for leading music, Eloise Lindem and Phyllis Fitzgerald for providing desserts, Justin Burress for leading the Hungry, Hungry Hippo, and Eloise Lindem, Carol Omernick, and the Schwab children for helping with preparations. I am also grateful to all of the parents who helped with clean up.

Our next Family Event is February 7, at 5:30p.m. in the church fellowship hall. There will be a potluck dinner and we will be decorating cookies to give away. Please RSVP to Jane or on Facebook with what you are bringing. If you would be willing to help with clean-up, let Jane know.



Thank you to Leah Gieseler- Hantke for keeping the book bags in order. If anyone would like to take charge of the PrayGround, let me know. It would involve making sure the area is tidy and changing out the books, puzzles, and other seasonal items.

Search for these words that are all associated with the Lenten journey.

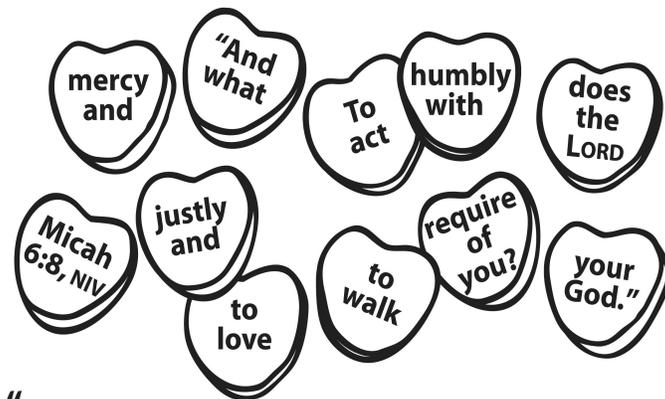
crown donkey hosanna penance Pilate sins
 colt crucifixion forsaken kiss prayer suffer
 confess death Gethsemane lots repent thorns
 cross denial Golgotha palms silver vigil

E N A M E S H T E G R L W Y
 C L E U X B M T H B U C W B
 N R I K Y P A T E T I Y X Y
 A V J G A L B R E Y A R P B
 N G N L I S N L A I N E D X
 E W M P R V R D H B N R D F
 P S O G O L G O T H A B S C
 D L N R O C O N F E S S I K
 O T H T C P E K W U O U N D
 M N S H N P W E D R H F S K
 U N F O E T K Y C S G F O E
 H E C R E V L I S W Q E C M
 H V H N C X S O C C J R L O
 F Q E S U D S H C A A Y M C
 C R U C I F I X I O N S R V

Conversation hearts

The world encourages people to look out for themselves and seek success, but in Micah 6:8, God tells us to live differently.

Directions: Put the conversation hearts in the correct order by writing the words on the lines below. Hint: Capitalization and quotation marks are included.



" _____

 _____ ?

 _____ " _____ 6:8 , _____

New Members Received January 21, 2018



Les & Julia Keeper

We both grew up in the Chicago area, but lived in Mt. Pleasant, Michigan for most of our adult lives. We have two grown children, three grandchildren and a dog named Moose. Courtney and Dan live in Michigan with Jameson (9), Eloise (6) and Scarlett (4). Kevin and Lindsay live in Seattle. Julia's family has always had a place on Sand Bay. She introduced Les to Door County when they met. Our dream was to eventually move here permanently and that dream became reality in October when we were able to buy a house and move to Ellison Bay. Les is able to work from home for California-based Montose Environmental. We both love the outdoors - hiking, kayaking, cross country skiing, biking. Les is an avid photographer. We both love travel and adventure. We are thrilled to be a part of the amazing Door County community and this congregation!



Tim & Carrie Mulrain

Tim and I moved to Sister Bay from Green Bay four years ago when Tim accepted the job of Dean of Students at Gibraltar School. I eventually found a teaching job at Sevastopol High School. We have enjoyed exploring the state parks and land trusts that surround us. Our favorite hobbies include cross country skiing, kayaking and hiking with our dog, Riga.



Kim Maedke-Shumway

I was born in Door County - Southern Door and have been searching for a church to join. I am very pleased with the minister here.



Jim & Nancy Marsho

We are both retired and moved to Fish Creek, WI in 2016 after living in Waukesha and Brookfield, Wisconsin for over 40 years. We were born and raised in Milwaukee. Our two daughters are married and have blessed us with six grandchildren. Jim was trained as a Professional Civil Engineer at the University of Wisconsin and retired from the University of Wisconsin- Milwaukee. Nancy was an elementary school principal in the Waukesha and Elmbrook School Districts and also taught graduate level courses in the Educational Leadership program at Cardinal Stritch University in Milwaukee. We are life-long Lutherans and enjoy a variety of fellowship activities within the church as well as playing many card games including bridge and sheepshead. Avid University of Wisconsin football fans, we attend all the home football games in Madison. Here in Door County, we can often be found at the Northern Door YMCA or hiking in Peninsula State Park.

Ruth Ann Hjelle

I grew up in beautiful Decorah, Iowa, graduating from Luther College. I spent 30+ years teaching grade school in the Peoria, IL area and raising 2 wonderful kids. Ten years ago I reconnected with my high school sweetheart. We got married in 2011 and I moved to Door County where my husband has a business. I enjoy walking, reading, cooking and, of course, spending time with my grandchildren.

Tim & Sue West

Tim and Sue have been Associate members at SOTB for many years. They moved to DC full time in 2017.

Northern Door Health & Wellness Ministry

Herbal Medicine

David LaLuzerne, Graduate of WI School of Pharmacy and previous owner of Green Earth Natural Medicine in Madison will cover topics such as the recognition and use of herbs.

Sunday, Feb. 18 at 4:00pm @First Baptist Church
Community Health Information Program

Church Directory Update!

Its not too late to update your listing in the directory with new phone numbers and photos.

Follow the directions to the right to put the directory on your smart phone, tablet or computer.

Contact the office (854-2988) for more info.

Sync Our Church Directory to Your Mobile Device

Now you can sync our church directory directly to your Apple, Android or Kindle Fire device with a FREE app!

Search for other members, and then email, call or text – right from the directory app.

It's Easy!

1. Go to your device's App Store.
2. Search for Instant Church Directory.
3. Enter your email as it's listed in our church directory.
4. Follow the directions on screen to complete the login process.



Building and Grounds Committee

Building Maintenance

It has been a quiet few weeks lately, except for the snow. The following projects have been completed;

- file cabinets moved upstairs into the historical archive
- cable access hole drilled in Carol's desk.
- Kitchen pantry shelves organized

Thank you, Joel, Karl and Scott for your help.

If you have any concerns or suggestions regarding the building or grounds, please feel free to mention them to any of the Building and Grounds committee members, Greg Casperson, Karl Omernick, Joel Thomas, Scott Theis or me. If none of us are around, drop a note in the message holder on the custodian's closet door in the narthex (the door between the 2 restrooms).

Thank you, Thomas Tuttle
Chair Buildings and Grounds

Soup's On!!

The soup freezer is full again. Thanks to Jeni Tveten for making 70 quarts soup. We have added a third variety, Gluten Free Chicken Vegetable. We still have Chicken Noodle and Beef Vegetable Barley.

The soup is in the freezer and is free for anyone to give out to anyone who needs a meal. You can take it to your friends who are sick with the flu, having surgery, or battling an illness. All you have to do is fill out the sheet on the freezer with how many quarts you are taking. This helps us to keep track of when we will need to make more soup.

Readers :

8:30am Service

Feb. 4 Nancy Goss
Feb. 11 Linda Smith
Feb. 18 Stan Whiteman
Feb. 25 Robin Butchart

March 4 Keith Wickert
March 11 Jeanne Aurelius
March 18 Dave Boock
March 25 Sue Daubner

11:00am Service

Lori Pothast
Scott Henry
OPEN
Ben Pothast

Cindy Lawrence
Karl Omernick
Gladys Austgen
Lori Pothast

8:30am Ushers :

Please sign up on the bulletin board if you can help usher in 2018.

Feb. 4 Scott & Marcia Eckdahl
Feb. 11 Dick Burress & David Daubner
Feb. 18 Gretchen & Dan Farwell
Feb. 25 OPEN

March 4 OPEN
March 11 OPEN
March 18 OPEN
March 25 OPEN

Shepherd of the Bay Council Meeting January 16, 2018

Present: Grace Rossman, Holly Thomas, Alicia Kropuenske, Barb Meyer, Jenny Sitte, Carl Jackson, Greg Casperson, Pastor Jim Honig, Scott Henry and Ron Hupe. Absent: John Skogsbakken

The Council meeting opened with prayer at 4:05 pm.

Pastor Honig reflected on the Christmas Eve services and stated that attendance was up by over 100 people from last year. He just got back from leading a training session on community organizing this past weekend. There were 5 representatives from Door County.

The minutes from the December 2017 minutes were reviewed with a motion made by Carl Jackson and second by Holly Thomas to accept the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

The Treasurer's report was given by Ron Hupe. The regular offering and therefore total income for December was up by a significant amount while expenses were slightly under budget. Unfortunately, we were still short \$20,000 for the year 2017. (Budget for the 2017 year was -\$17,732) Greg Casperson made a motion to accept the treasurer's report with a second from Holly Thomas. Motion carried to accept the report as given.

The council reviewed the proposed 2018 budget presented by the Finance Committee. This budget includes an increase in benevolence to the ELCA which hasn't happened in many years. There are no raises for staff in this budget. The 2018 budget will be a balanced budget with no deficit. We ask the congregation to prayerfully consider this budget for 2018 and think of how we can financially help Shepherd of the Bay maintain all the services we offer to the congregation and the community. We will be voting on this 2018 budget at the annual meeting. A motion made to present the proposed 2018 budget at the annual meeting was made by Holly Thomas, second by Greg Casperson. Motion accepted.

Property & Grounds report. Please welcome our new custodian, Kim Maedke-Shumway. Juan Casansa finished his service for Shepherd of the Bay on December 31st and we thank him for all the work he has done at the Church. There is a comprehensive list of items that have been worked on, replaced or maintained throughout the year. This report is updated by Tom Tuttle, chair of Building & Grounds. Evan Henry is working with Tom Tuttle to come up with a specific project Evan can do for his Eagle Scout project at Shepherd of the Bay. Work will need to be completed by fall of 2018.

Worship & Music report: The committee reflected on the Christmas services and how we can improve them for next year. Many concerts were set for the upcoming year including a bell choir concert in June. A small group will gather to discuss and set wedding protocol for Shepherd of the Bay.

Education & Youth: First family event was well attended. Confirmation & Wonderful Wednesday kids worked with Peninsula School of Art to make tiles as a fundraiser for the Northern Door Child Care Center and the PSA. Those children who were baptized in the last two years were given gifts to celebrate. High School youth will be participating in the 30 hour famine at the end of this month.

Finance & Stewardship: Scott Henry will be the Shepherd of the Bay representative at the Synod Assembly on May 18th. Pledges returned this year were around 120 which is an increase from last year.

Annual Meeting: Two nominations for council are Cheryl Becht and Scott Eckdahl.

Carl Jackson made a motion to accept the Committee Reports as reported, Alicia Kropuenske second. Motion carried.

Old Business: Robo call renewal is due this month and the council feels that it is a well used tool for our Church. Pastor Honig has been using constant contact each week to email updates to members on what's happening at Church and what the scriptures are for the week. The open rate on emails is anywhere from 42-49%.

Thank you to Grace Rossman & Greg Casperson for all their hard work on the council the past four years. Their leadership and commitment will be missed.

The next Council meeting will be Monday February 19th at 6:00pm.

The meeting ended with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Alicia Kropuenske, Council Secretary

2017 Shepherd of the Bay Church Annual Meeting

Held on January 28, 2018

Present: Members of the Congregation and Council Members

Church Council President, Grace Rossman, called the meeting to order at 9:45am. Pastor Honig opened the meeting with prayer.

Motion Tom Tuttle/Second Wally Brandt to approve the minutes from the 2017 Shepherd of the Bay Church Annual Meeting as reported and presented to the congregation; motion passed.

Treasurer, Ron Hupe presented the Treasurer's report for the year end 2017. Ron explained the breakdown of the balance sheet and the revenue statement. The budget for 2017 was -\$17,732 and we ended up at -\$21,952. He did report that December giving was up significantly and the amount of pre-paid offering is up considerably from last year. The endowment value at year end 2017 was \$315,793. There were no questions about the Treasurer's report. Motion Sue Krause/second Werner Krause to accept the 2017 Budget Report as presented. Motion passed.

Nominating Committee chair Grace Rossman opened by thanking Greg Casperson for his years of service on the Church Council. His leadership has not gone unnoticed and he will be missed. Grace continued by presenting the nominations for Church Council as follows:

Church Council: Cheryl Becht and Scott Eckdahl. Discussion=none. Motion by Jeanne Aurelius/second Bunny Sheahen to accept the church council nominations as presented. Motion passed.

Synod Assembly: Scott Henry

Nominating Committee: Grace Rossman and Greg Casperson

Endowment Committee: Dave Boock

Personnel: Stan Whiteman

Discussion=none. Motion made by Wally Brandt/second Kathy Schultz to accept the nominations for Synod Assembly, Nominating Committee, Endowment Committee and Personnel. Motion passed.

Pastor Honig spoke to the congregation before Ron Hupe, treasurer, presented the proposed 2018 budget. Pastor Honig offered up his thanks to Ron Hupe for his commitment to the church and his continual vision of money with ministry focus. He also offered his thanks to Grace Rossman and Greg Casperson for their years of service and leadership.

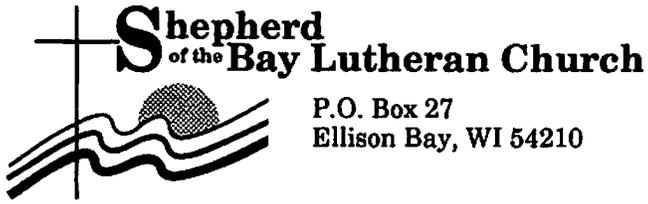
Ron Hupe presented the 2018 proposed budget to the congregation. It is a budget with no extra cushion. We feel it is a vision of what God is calling our Church /members to do in our ministries. The proposed budget shows a needed increase in giving of \$78,540. This proposed budget does not include any raises for staff this year. It does increase the amount we are giving to the ELCA church for the year. No questions from the congregation. Motion Tim West/second Ronnie Robinson to accept the 2018 budget as presented. Motion passed.

President, Grace Rossman informed the congregation that we would continue with the mid-summer informational meeting for our Church. The Constitution and bylaws are being re-written and will be reviewed at the summer meeting. 2017 was an eventful year for Council and the Call Committee. President Rossman thanked all of those members who were involved in the call process and thanked Pastor Honig for his service to our Church.

Pastor Honig gave a brief update on the Sanctuary Technology Committee. This committee is currently working on looking at the technology needs in our Sanctuary in regards to sound, projection, etc. Quotes are being compiled and reviewed. A report/update will be coming in the near future.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:08am and concluded with the singing of the Doxology and a prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Alicia Kropuenske, Church Council Secretary



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Midweek Lenten Services

Wednesdays, February 14 - March 21, 2018

6:00pm Meal & 7:00pm Service

Lenten Reflections Concert

Sunday, March 18, 2018 @ 7:00pm

Sundays Lessons for February

February 4: Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

First Lesson: Isaiah 40:21-31

Second Lesson : 1 Corinthians 9:16-23

Holy Gospel: Mark 1:29-39



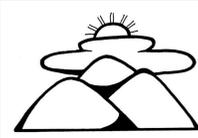
Introduction to the readings: In Isaiah it is the one God who sits above the earth and numbers the stars—it is that God who strengthens the powerless. So in Jesus' healing work we see the hand of the creator God, lifting up the sick woman to health and service (diakonia). Like Simon's mother-in-law, we are lifted up to health and diakonia. Following Jesus, we strengthen the powerless; like Jesus, we seek to renew our own strength in quiet times of prayer.

February 11 : Transfiguration of Our Lord

First Lesson: 2 Kings 2:1-12

Second Lesson: 2 Corinthians 4:3-6

Holy Gospel: Mark 9:2-9



Introduction to the readings: The Sundays after Epiphany began with Jesus' baptism and end with three disciples' vision of his transfiguration. In Mark's story of Jesus' baptism, apparently only Jesus sees the Spirit descending and hears the words from heaven. But now Jesus' three closest friends hear the same words naming him God's beloved son. As believers, Paul writes, we are enabled to see the God-light in Jesus' face, because the same God who created light in the first place has shone in our hearts to give us that vision. The light of God's glory in Jesus has enlightened us through baptism and shines in us also for others to see.

February 18 : First Sunday in Lent

First Lesson: Genesis 9:8-17

Second Lesson: 1 Peter 3:18-22

Holy Gospel: Mark 1:9-15



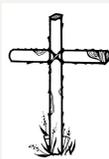
Introduction to the readings: On Ash Wednesday the church began its journey toward baptismal immersion in the death and resurrection of Christ. This year, the Sundays in Lent lead us to focus on five covenants God makes in the Hebrew Scriptures and to use them as lenses through which to view baptism. First Peter connects the way God saved Noah's family in the flood with the way God saves us through the water of baptism. The baptismal covenant is made with us individually, but the new life we are given in baptism is for the sake of the whole world.

February 25 : Second Sunday in Lent

First Lesson: Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

Second Lesson: Romans 4:13-25

Holy Gospel: Mark 8:31-38



Introduction to the readings: The second covenant in this year's Lenten readings is the one made with Abraham and Sarah: God's promise to make them the ancestors of many, with whom God will remain in everlasting covenant. Paul says this promise comes to all who share Abraham's faith in the God who brings life into being where there was no life. We receive this baptismal promise of resurrection life in faith. Sarah and Abraham receive new names as a sign of the covenant, and we too get new identities in baptism, as we put on Christ.



February Coffee Hour Group

Co-chair:

Bob & Sharon Pluff 854-4292

Gary & Gayle Dooly 854-9675

Wally & Rita Brandt 854-4078

Lynn Brunsen (630) 730-7842

Sue Daubner 854-2109

Clink & Sharon Gall 746-4548

Nancy Goss 854-5776

Jim & Joanne Gustafson 854-6030

Bonnie Hanson 854-5009

Ken & Pat Klitzman 823-2733

Werner & Sue Krause 854-5257

Robert & Sara Larsen 854-4586

Dick & Kathy Luther 606-7147

Marilyn Peterson 854-4657

Gloria Serkland 854-3535

Richard & Beverly Tesnow 854-2197

Thor & Judy Thoreson 854-9778



March Coffee Hour Group

Co-Chair:

Ron & Janet Stromen. 854-4427

Suzi Hass 421-1379

Robert & Joan Carlson 854-2419

Carol Champeau 854-4578

Sharon Donegan 854-9320

Lorraine Hoyt 854-5673

Don & Donna Koepsel 854-9489

Eloise Lindem 854-4458

Jan Mielke 854-5308

Jay & Vicki Olson 421-2161

Jody Olson 854-2353

Gordon & Judy Reeves (920) 495-7372

Sherry Wilson 421-0431

Altar Guild :

February - Bonnie Hanson