

April 2026

# Newsletter



Good Shepherd Lutheran Church of South Hills

Volume 3 Issue 4

## President's Corner

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

May is a time of great faith! One of the most beautiful accomplishments that will be celebrated on May 10th is the Confirmation of six of our youth: Gavin Glasser, Jordyn Moore-Gray, Jakob Sleeman, Chase Ulanowicz, Aiden Winters and Lily Winters. These Students have studied for nine months now and will publicly proclaim their belief in our Triune God before the Congregation. They will be given a Bible verse that is intended to be a guiding principle for them throughout their lives. We will pray for them together. On the same day, an infant child, Bailey Karpinsky, will be baptized in a private ceremony just before our Church Service. Pastor Barry will be administering both of these ceremonies. During the Baptism Service, the Parents and Godparents, will proclaim what God is doing to work faith within this child they represent. They will commit to pray for Bailey and to raise her in a right relationship with God while teaching and nurturing her to build and strengthen that relationship with God.

When do we stop learning and growing and strengthening our relationship with God? The answer obviously is never. Times change, people change, things change all around us, but the one certainty we have in our life is our God and the promise of our salvation. I've lectured and instructed the Confirmands to not stop coming to Church and being involved with Good Shepherd once they are confirmed. This marks a time of beginning, not a time of completion. To grow their faith and continue to strengthen their relationship with God, others around them have to also be committed to them and to help. They need their Parents to bring them to Church, and more importantly, to set a godly example each and every day (and thank you for doing both thus far!) . They need to read their Bible so their understanding grows in breadth and in depth. And, they need to pray; unceasingly, each and every day. The devil and all his works will attack these young people just as he does you and I. We need to be active in our faith, not passive. Please pray for our Confirmands, and for Bailey and for one another.

On other news;

- We have supported the BCAP (the Bhutanese Community Association of Pittsburgh) Afterschool and Summer Day School Program for several years. The relationship is ending in May. If you have a personal relationship with the folks who have come to know Good Shepherd as their home, please wish them well, and pray for their organization and the people they support.
- The Nepalese Christian Congregation will continue to worship at Good Shepherd under the ministry and leadership of Pastor Deepak Darjee. Please pray for Deepak, the Nepalese Congregation and opportunities for Good Shepherd and they to come into closer fellowship.
- There will be a GSLC Council Meeting on Tuesday, May 26th and a GSLC Congregation Meeting on Sunday, June 7th. We will present the new annual budget, recommendations for new officers, updates from each Committee Chair including the Call and Cemetery Committees. Please plan to attend if possible. We will provide some food and refreshments.

Thank you for all you do to set an example of our Lord's love in your family, home and community. Thank you for serving those in need. In the end, being a follower of the Lord is about what we give outside of Church and is reinforced by what we receive inside of Church.

~Your Brother in Christ, Ray

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# From the Pastor's Desk

## Six Words

“He is not here; He is risen, as He said. Come see where He lay. Go quickly and tell his disciples “Jesus is Risen from the dead.” Matthew 28:6-7

Recently, Andie and I went to see my daughter Jennifer and her husband Ryan in Miami, Florida. While there, we took a tour through the home of Ernest Hemingway. One of the stories of his life is about a bet made with his friends one night at a pub. He said that he could write a story in 6 words. They said, “no way.” He took a pen and a napkin and wrote; “For sale – baby shoes, never worn.”

Since then, a movement has risen that challenges people to write a summary of their life in six words. Here are a few samples.

“It all changed in an instant.”

“Knobly feet – Wobbly Body – Sharp Mind”

“Living my dream – send more money”

“The smallest coffins are the heaviest”

“ Brought roses home, keys didn't fit”

“ How can emptiness be so heavy?”

“Finding you was like coming home”

How would you sum up your life so far, in six words? Let's change the question a bit – what is the legacy that you want to leave with your family, in six words?

Here are some samples of well-known people.

Martin Luther King Jr. “When words spoke louder than fear!”

Ronald Reagan “A World at Peace with Itself”

Abraham Lincoln “United the Country freeing the slaves”

Mother Theresa “She was Saint of the gutters

What about our life as believers? Does our faith have a 6-word statement? The Bible contains 775,00 words. In the mix of those words, there are 6 words that shape the autobiography of Christianity.

“Jesus is Risen from the Dead”

Without these six words, the other 774,994 words make no sense. Take away these 6 words and there is no freedom from the past, the present or the future. We remain slaves to our sin.

These are the words that breathless woman carried from the empty tomb and told the disciples. These are the words that have passed from person to person and generation to generation since that first Easter morning.

Jesus is Risen from the Dead! They have been whispered in secret. Shared in triumph and spoken tearfully at the grave.

These six words are a game changer. These are the words that martyrs sang while being burned at the stake. These six words are what Desmond Tutu clung to, in his courageous work in South Africa. These are the words my mother spoke to me as her death drew near.

Nikolai Bukharin was a Russian Communist leader and he was the editor of the Soviet newspaper Pravda. In 1930, he gave a speech promoting atheism, and he spoke out against Christianity, hurling insults and arguments against it. When his speech was over he looked out at the crowd of what seemed to be the smoldering ashes of men's faith. Are there any questions? Bukharin demanded. Deafening silence filled the auditorium until one elderly man approached the platform. He paused and looked at the crowd and shouted Christ Is Risen! The crowd arose as one and the response came loudly: He Is Risen Indeed!

6 Words! 6 Words that have the power to change your life. 6 words that have the power to make you free from all the enslaves you. 6 words – Jesus is Risen from the Dead!

-Pastor Barry

# May 2026

Sunday morning worship continues in-person and it is also being live streamed.

[Click here](#) Sundays to join us in worship via our YouTube Channel.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					<b>1</b> GSLC Office Closed 10a Mom's & Muffins 3p BCAP 7p IPMS	<b>2</b> 9a Soccer Shots
<b>3</b> 10:15a Sunday Worship 12:30p BPFC	<b>4</b> 3p BCAP 5:15p Cub Scouts 7p Boy Scouts	<b>5</b> 3p BCAP 6p Scrapbooking	<b>6</b> 3p BCAP 5:15p Cub Scouts 6p The Chosen	<b>7</b> 3p BCAP 5p Soccer Shots 5:45p Cub Scouts	<b>8</b> GSLC Office Closed 9a Mom's & Muffins 3p BCAP	<b>9</b> 9a Soccer Shots
<b>10 Mother's                      Day/Confirmation</b> 9a Private Baptism 10:15a Sunday Worship w/ Communion 12:30p BPFC	<b>11</b> 10a Preschool Graduation 3p BCAP 5:15p Cub Scouts 7p Boy Scouts	<b>12</b> 10a ,11a , 5pm, 6pm, & 7pm Preschool Graduation 3p BCAP	<b>13</b> 6p Preschool Graduation 3p BCAP 5:15p Cub Scouts 6p The Chosen	<b>14</b> 3p BCAP 5p Soccer Shots 5:45p Cub Scouts	<b>15</b> GSLC Office Closed 3p BCAP	<b>16</b> 9a Soccer Shots
<b>17</b> 10:15a Sunday Worship 12:30p BPFC	<b>18</b> 9a Preschool Summer Camp 3p BCAP 7p Boy Scouts	<b>19</b> 9a Preschool Summer Camp 6p Scrapbooking	<b>20</b> 9a Preschool Summer Camp 3p BCAP 6p The Chosen	<b>21</b> 9a Preschool Summer Camp 3p BCAP	<b>22</b> GSLC Office Closed 3p BCAP	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> 10:15a Sunday Worship w/ Communion 12:30p BPFC	<b>25 Memorial                      Day</b> GSLC Office Closed	<b>26</b> 9a Preschool Summer Camp 3p BCAP	<b>27</b> 9a Preschool Summer Camp 3p BCAP	<b>28</b> 9a Preschool Summer Camp 3p BCAP	<b>29</b> GSLC Office Closed 9a Preschool Summer Camp 3p BCAP	<b>30</b> 10a Private Baptism 12:30p Listening Meeting
<b>31</b> 10:15a Sunday Worship 12:30p BPFC		BPFC – Pgh Nepali Church BCAP – Bhutanese Community Association of Pittsburgh DEN – Cub Scouts Events in <b>green</b> are Good Shepherd Events Events in <b>purple</b> are Preschool Events				

## May Birthdays & Anniversaries

### Birthdays

5/6 – Debi Kaspereit  
5/8 – Averil Arnold-Binikos  
5/9 – Norma Mikoleit  
5/15 – Brandon Snyder  
5/18 – Patrick Dunmire  
5/20 – Chase Ulanowicz  
5/21 – John Coleman  
5/25 – Chris Vogel  
5/29 – Hope Ulanowicz



### Anniversaries

5/1 – Greg & Jennie Zeman (27)  
5/21 – Bob & Sharon Matey (32)  
5/22 – Dave & Jean Barone (33)  
5/22 – Rich & Hollie Ulanowicz (22)



## Good Shepherd Announcements

Church office hours: Monday – Thursday 8:30am – 12:30pm

If you have any pastoral care need, please feel free to reach out to Pastor Barry at: 724-996-2160



If you shop at christianbook.com, the Preschool has set up an account for their GiveBack program. When you go to check out, you can search for Good Shepherd Christian Preschool in Pittsburgh, PA. The preschool will receive 4% back from all orders.

## Vacation Bible School Announcements

There are seven weeks to go before the start of VBS. Registration is going well for participants, but as always we are in need of volunteers to help us be successful. If you would like to volunteer that week, please register using the QR code:



We will be announcing future opportunities to help in other ways as well and we can always use your prayers. Don't forget to check out the donation board right outside of the office - take a butterfly and drop off your purchase or scan the code for the Amazon Wishlist and have the package delivered directly to church. If you don't like to shop, we're happy to take monetary donations and do the shopping for you. VBS donations can also be done on-line just like your regular weekly offering or in the envelopes available in the Narthex. Thank you as always for your support!



## Call Committee Update

The Call Committee has continued to reach out to the pastors on the latest list. Many pastors are being contacted by a multiple congregations across the country. As you pray for Good Shepherd's search for our next spiritual leader, please pray for these pastors as well - for openness, patience, and discernment. May we all always trust in God's plan. Thank you!

## FLYC Announcements

The Easter Egg Hunt in April was a huge success! Over 200 adults and children from the church, preschool and community registered for the event, which was held on the morning of Good Friday. Everyone enjoyed donuts, cookies, coffee and the Gospel Message. Special thanks to the volunteers who helped with the events of the day!



Ice Cream Socials and Bonfires are returning soon! Please keep an eye out in the Weekly Tidings and on Facebook for event dates and times.

## Preschool Announcements

Graduations are here! Take some time to see these wonderful classes celebrate the end of the year!

Monday, May 11: 10am -2's Promotion

Tuesday, May 12: 10am-2's Promotion

Tuesday, May 12: 11am-3's Promotion

Tuesday, May 12: 5pm-Learning Together Promotion

Tuesday, May 12: 6pm-Thurston's 4's Graduation

Tuesday, May 12: 7pm-Junior Kindergarten Graduation

Wednesday, May 13: 6pm-Sabol's 4's Graduation

## Outside Good Shepherd

### LWML Spring Rally

May 2, 2026

St. Luke – Bulter Campus



Bible Study with Concordia Lutheran  
Ministries Deaconess Heather Wathall.  
Joyshop Service Project for Forged by Fire Ministries

Registration information coming in April!

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### The Life of Christ

A Presentation in Word & Song by  
The Pittsburgh Lutheran Chorus

#### Sunday, April 12

Concordia at Rebecca Residence Chapel @ 2:00pm  
Highpointe at Rebecca Chapel @ 3:30pm

#### Sunday, April 19

Concordia Haven 2 @ 4:00pm

#### Sunday, April 26

Concordia of Monroeville @ 2:30pm

#### Sunday, May 3

Harmony Room, Concordia of the South Hills @ 2:00pm

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### Ascension Day Celebration

First Joint Parish Worship Service  
(Ascension, Bethel, St. John's & Zion)  
Thursday May 14<sup>th</sup> @ 7pm

Ascension Lutheran Church  
8225 Peebles Rd.  
Pittsburgh, PA 15237

## Prayer Requests:

Rachel Schaar, Cathy Cerminara, Karen Miller, Marian Maskow, Rev. Daniel Strussenberg, Cathy Sayre, Sarah Brooks, Peter Way, Carol DeAngelis, Larry Winker, Mike Brennan, Erika Similo, Jan Kleiser, Lisa Brady, Don Matthews, Pastor Tim, Tiffany, Mary Jane Forrest, Hope Leydig, Dennis Lee, Sam Langol, Melissa Medved, Anne Malone, Gary Cooper, Carolyn Uhlyar, Norma Mikoleit, Joan Uhrinak, Arlene Stroebel, Bebe Bair, Iris and Steve Wutzke, Alice Meyer, Nancy Wauthier, John Schmidt, Zack, Michele Mulick, Mourice Williams, Dr. Bruce Bickel, Jay, Jake Herring, Carol Archer, Sean Sleeman, Ron Gerstacker, Phyllis Hackbart, Jared Lubawski, Kaiden, Andie Keurulainen, Kaylee, Jenny Peterson, Leila Wood



“Praise the Lord, my soul, and forget not all his benefits – who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases” -Psalm 103:2-3

## Follow us!



[Facebook.com/GoodShepherdLutheranChurchofSouthHills/](https://www.facebook.com/GoodShepherdLutheranChurchofSouthHills/)



[Youtube.com/channel/UC3Vho6JeoKM-rVRkXRRVpvQ](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC3Vho6JeoKM-rVRkXRRVpvQ)

(or, go to YouTube and search @goodshepherdlutheranchurch3950 )



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