

# The

# Call

*Dear Friends,*

Grace and peace to you on this blessed season of Christmas!

There's news to share. God is working in us, every day. We never know exactly when someone is going to be called to do something for God's work (those opportunities often present themselves when we least expect them, especially as we age and we think that God is done asking us to do things). We never know exactly what we are going to be called to do for God. And, we certainly rarely know why God calls us to do one thing or another, but we trust that God has reasons, and we have faith that God never ever calls us to do something without giving us the resources to do it.

The news to share is this. Beth Fine, our Church Administrator, is in preparation to be a Commissioned Ruling Elder in the Presbyterian Church (USA). God is calling her to be a different type of leader.

As good Lutherans, it is fitting for us to ask—what does this mean?

Pastors/clergy are ordained Teaching Elders. Beth was ordained as a Ruling Elder when she accepted the call to be a member of her church's Session (comparable to our Congregation Council). She has begun online coursework in the Church Leadership Program through the University of Dubuque Theological Seminary that will go through the spring of 2026, and after completing additional requirements of Carlisle Presbytery, she will be eligible to be commissioned by the presbytery to provide lay pastoral leadership to a congregation. Beth will then be a Commissioned Ruling Elder.

Her home congregation, Camp Hill Presbyterian Church, has publicly affirmed her preparation with a commissioning. During that rite it was stated that, "The preparation process will equip (Beth) to serve the church in very specific and practical ways as a preacher, moderator, and pastoral care provider. Upon completion of the program, Beth will be ready to be authorized by the Commission on Ministry to preach, administer the Sacraments, and officiate weddings and funerals."

We celebrate that God is working in her life in this way and offer her our prayers and support.

Merry Christmas to you as you live as the eyes, ears, hands, feet, and voice of Jesus in all places!

*Peace, and many blessings,  
Rev. Kathleen J. Baker, STM  
Pastor*

**Parish Staff:**

Kathleen J. Baker, STM, Pastor  
Nicholas P. Werner, Music Director  
Beth C. Fine, Church Administrator  
Kester T. Sobers III, Pastor Emeritus  
Herbert O. Fowler, Cantor Emeritus

**Church Officers:**

Fred Sprunk, President  
Sue Bricker, Vice President  
Don Lausch, Treasurer  
Karen Borzok, Secretary

**Congregational Council Members:**

Bill Baum, Greg Borzok, Karen Borzok, Sue Bricker,  
Don Lausch, Dix McCauley, Robert Roller,  
Fred Sprunk, and Ann Vazquez

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The editor reserves the right to edit for brevity and  
clarity. Unless otherwise publicized, the deadline for  
submissions is the third Sunday of the month.

# Christian Education Opportunities

## Adult Faith Formation *Sundays at 9:45 a.m. in the Gathering Room* Class Resumes January 5

The Adult Faith Formation Class will reconvene  
Sunday, January 5 at 9:45 a.m. in the Gathering  
Room.

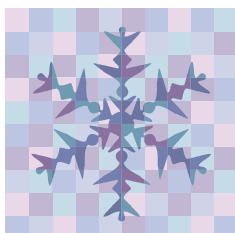
## Pastor's Bible Study *Tuesday, January 21 at 7:00 p.m. in the Gathering Room*

Pastor Baker's monthly study will focus on  
2 Corinthians 6—8:15 on Tuesday, January 21  
at 7 p.m. in the Gathering Room.

## Living Room Dialogue *4th Sunday of the month at 6:30 p.m. in the Gathering Room*

Living Room Dialogue resumes its book study  
on **Sunday, January 26** at 6:30 p.m. in the  
Gathering Room.

### REMINDER: In Case of Inclement Weather...



It has been and will continue to be the policy of Good Shepherd never to cancel our Sunday liturgies regardless of the weather. The only change in that policy would be if a snow emergency were declared with roadways closed to all but emergency personnel. Wednesday services will be canceled if the Central Dauphin School District delays the opening or closes their administrative offices and holds a remote learning day due to winter weather.

### Worship and Music Committee Upcoming Events Wednesday, January 8

**Undecorate the Church at 10:15 a.m.**

**Committee Meeting  
12:00 p.m. in the Gathering Room**

**All are welcome!**



- January 1 Fred Sprunk
- January 3 Don Lausch
- January 4 Pr. Kathleen Baker
- January 6 Andrea Azzalina
- January 10 James Stettler
- January 11 Amy Hower
- January 12 Steve Watson
- January 17 Margie Thorpe
- January 18 Jane Buhrman
- January 19 Ann Vazquez
- January 25 Charlie Wright
- January 26 Joan Corbett
- January 27 Pat Watson
- January 29 Don Adams
- January 29 Jeff Baum

## January Readings

- Jan. 1 Numbers 6: 22-27, Psalm 8, Galatians 4: 4-7, Luke 2: 15-21
- Jan. 2 Proverbs 147: 12-20, James 3: 13-18, Psalm 147: 12-20
- Jan. 3 Job 42: 10-17, Luke 8: 16-21, Psalm 72
- Jan. 4 Isaiah 6: 1-5, Acts 7: 44-53, Psalm 72
- Jan. 5 Jeremiah 31: 7-14, Psalm 147: 12-20, Ephesians 1: 3-14 John 1: [1-9]10-18
- Jan. 6 Isaiah 60: 1-6, Psalm 72: 1-7, 10-14, Ephesians 3: 1-12 Matthew 2: 1-12
- Jan. 7 Daniel 2: 1-19, Ecclesiastes 4: 17-5: 1, Psalm 72
- Jan. 8 Daniel 2: 24-49, Ecclesiastes 5: 15-20, Psalm 72
- Jan. 9 Ecclesiastes 1: 1-11, 1 Corinthians 1: 18-31, Psalm 29
- Jan. 10 Ecclesiastes 2: 1-11, 1 Corinthians 2: 1-10, Psalm 29
- Jan. 11 Ecclesiastes 3: 1-15, 1 Corinthians 2: 11-16, Psalm 29
- Jan. 12 Isaiah 43: 1-7, Psalm 29, Acts 8: 14-17, Luke 3: 15-17, 21-22
- Jan. 13 Judges 4: 1-16, Ephesians 6: 10-17, Psalm 106: 1-12
- Jan. 14 Judges 5: 12-21, 1 John 5: 13-21, Psalm 106: 1-12
- Jan. 15 Numbers 27: 1-11, Luke 11: 33-36, Psalm 106: 1-12
- Jan. 16 Jeremiah 3: 1-5, Acts 8: 18-24, Psalm 36: 5-10
- Jan. 17 Jeremiah 3: 19-25, 1 Corinthians 7: 1-7, Psalm 36: 5-10
- Jan. 18 Jeremiah 4: 1-4, Luke 11: 14-23, Psalm 36: 5-10
- Jan. 19 Isaiah 62: 1-5, Psalm 36: 5-10, 1 Corinthians 12: 1-11, John 2: 1-11
- Jan. 20 Isaiah 54Z: 1-8, Romans 12: 9-21, Psalm 145
- Jan. 21 Song of Solomon 4: 1-8, 1 Corinthians 1: 3-17, Psalm 145
- Jan. 22 Song of Solomon 4: 9-5: 1, Luke 5: 33-39, Psalm 145
- Jan. 23 Isaiah 61: 1-7, Romans 7: 1-6, Psalm 19
- Jan. 24 Nehemiah 2: 1-10, Romans 12: 1-8, Psalm 19
- Jan. 25 Nehemiah 5: 1-13, Luke 2: 39-52, Psalm 19
- Jan. 26 Nehemiah 8: 1-3, 5-6, 8-10; Psalm 19; 1 Corinthians 12: 12-31a; Luke 4: 14-21
- Jan. 27 Jeremiah 36: 1-10, 1 Corinthians 14: 1-12, Psalm 119: 89-96
- Jan. 28 Jeremiah 36: 11-26, 2 Corinthians 7: 2-12, Psalm 119: 89-96
- Jan. 29 Jeremiah 36: 27-32, Luke 4: 38-44, Psalm 119: 89-96
- Jan. 30 2 Chronicles 34: 1-7, Acts 10: 44-48, Psalm 71: 1-6
- Jan. 31 2 Chronicles 35: 20-27, Acts 19: 1-10, Psalm 71: 1-6

## From Our Treasurer: November Financials

**2024**

**NOVEMBER FINANCIAL SUMMARY**

	Nov.	YTD
Giving	18,159	215,097
Spending	21,588	211,704
Surplus/(Deficit)	(3,429)	3,393

**BALANCES**

General Fund	13,243
Exchange (Restricted)	77,245
Memorial	30,480
Mission Investment Fund CD	32,391
Investments	376,565

# Women <sup>of the</sup> ELCA **Happy New Year!**

## Here's a Bible challenge...

See if you can find all 17 books of the Bible hidden in the following passage:

“I once made a remark about the hidden books of the Bible. It was a lulu, kept people looking so hard for facts and for others it was a revelation. Some were in a jam, especially since the names of the books are not capitalized, but the truth finally struck home to numbers of readers. To others it was a real job. We want it to be a most fascinating few moments for you. Yes, there will be some really easy ones to spot. Others may require judges to help them. I will quickly admit it usually takes a minister to find one of the 17, and there will be loud lamentations when it is found. A little lady says she brews a cup of tea so she can concentrate better. See how well you can compete. Relax now, for there really are the names of 17 books of the Bible in these sentences. (One preacher found 16 books in 20 minutes. It took him three weeks to find the seventeenth one.)”

True confession —I'm a paper hoarder. If I find an article of interest, I'll tear it out of the newspaper or magazine. Then I do a purge when it becomes too much. I found this puzzle recently. It's from my first church, Christ Lutheran. Have fun or frustration. Enjoy!

Two notes from December's article:

1. The Prayer of St. Francis is probably not written by him. The priest that baptized our 3 grandchildren in Assisi, Italy told us the rumor is that it was found on a battlefield and later attributed to St. Francis. I also discovered that maybe a French magazine editor, Father Esther Bouguereel, probably wrote it 700 years after St. Francis died.
2. The *Twelve Days of Christmas* song is not what it was represented to be. A trivia fact is that in today's market the cost of these gifts are \$ 49,263. If adding the duplicates, it's \$ 209, 272.

In closing, another piece of writing found from a Native American Rights Fund poster that was mailed to me. Hopefully, it gives you joy for 2025.

*May the sun bring you new energy by day.*

*May the moon softly restore you by night,*

*May the rain wash away your worries.*

*May the breeze blow new strength into your being*

*May you walk gently through the world and know its beauty all the days of your life.*

—Lois Griffiths

## *Thank you, Good Shepherd!*

**Thank you, with appreciation, to all who donated gifts from the Christmas Angel Tree for the family from the Swatara Middle School.** The Christmas tree was empty in no time. The family very appreciative of the gifts. Kudos to Good Shepherd members.

**Thank you, also, to all who donated money for the purchase of tote bags for the residents of the Paxton Street Home, helping ensure a Merry Christmas for the residents.** Again, kudos to Good Shepherd members.

The Mission and Ministry Committee can't thank you enough. It has been years of out pouring love with the gifts for our neighbors in need. It seems each year it becomes bigger and bigger. Your gracious giving has made happy faces throughout our community.

—The Mission & Ministry Committee

**Thank you to all the folks** who made soup, donated bread or crackers, and provided desserts for the three Wednesday Advent meals. The soups were delicious and well received. The desserts were an added treat as conversations occurred around the tables. Kudos to the Property Committee for setting up tables and chairs.

—The Hospitality Committee

**Our Gratitude** is extended to our loving church family for the kind and generous Christmas gifts, cards, and treats, and the way that you share God's love with all of us. Blessings to all of you, and thank you!

—Pastor Baker, Beth Fine & Nick Werner



## **Family Promise Update**

There have been a number of changes in the families recently. There is currently one family in the program and another expected to enter the week of December 15.

Our next Host Week is January 12-19. We still have some volunteer openings. Please contact Georgia Rehm if you are able to help with a meal, sleep overnight, or drive the van. Volunteers will be contacted the week before we are scheduled to host to give you all the needed information.

You really do make an impact on the lives of these homeless children and their families. Sometimes your kindness and generosity impact the children most and they may not even remember it until they are older.

Thank you for your support of Family Promise!

—Georgia Rehm

# Living Lutheran Back in Print!

Living Lutheran

STORIES OF GOD'S PEOPLE  
LIVING THEIR FAITH  
MAY 14 2024



**We heard you—and we listened.** We have found a way to bring *Living Lutheran* back to print quarterly. Each issue (spring, summer, winter, and fall) will feature the stories you know and love, along with updates on the church and your ELCA community.

The cost for one year will be \$19.95 for an individual subscription. To start receiving the print magazine, sign up at [livinglutheran.org/subscribe](http://livinglutheran.org/subscribe).

## WORSHIP SPONSORSHIPS

	Flowers \$25	Bulletins \$30	Lamps \$10
January 5		Breon	
January 12			
January 19			
January 26			

A central calendar is also posted in the Narthex of the Nave . Sign your name to that calendar as well and turn in the form to the office. We can also do double dedications.

## Sponsorship Form



Please return this slip with your contribution to the church office. Dedications are printed in the bulletin each week. For Sunday, \_\_\_\_\_ 2025

Flowers: \$25      Bulletins \$30      Lamps \$10

\_\_\_\_\_ To the Glory of God      \_\_\_\_\_ In Memory Of      \_\_\_\_\_ In Honor Of      \_\_\_\_\_ In Celebration Of

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Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount: \_\_\_\_\_ Deadline: Wednesday a.m. prior to the upcoming Sunday

# January 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 <p><b>POINSETTIAS</b> may be taken from the Nave <b>after worship on Sunday, Jan. 5.</b> Each pot includes a plastic cover to protect the plants from the cold. After Jan. 5, poinsettias may be picked up from the Breezeway.</p>			<p><b>1 NEW YEAR'S DAY</b> Church Office <b>CLOSED</b></p> <p><b>9:30 a.m. W &amp; S (Chapel)</b> <b>CANCELED</b></p>	2	3	4  5 p.m. W & S (Chapel)
<p><b>5 Food Pantry Sunday</b> 8:30 a.m. W &amp; S (Nave/YouTube) 9:45 a.m. Adult Faith Formation (Gathering Room) 11 a.m. W&amp;S (Nave)</p>	<p><b>6</b> 6:30 p.m. Cub Scout Pack 42 (ASH)</p>	<p><b>7</b> 9:30 a.m. Workshop (St. Lydia/ASH)  10 a.m. Ready for School, Ready to Succeed (Sts. Peter &amp; Paul)</p>	<p><b>8</b> 9:30 a.m. W&amp;S (Chapel) 10:15 a.m. Undecorate the Church 12 p.m. Worship &amp; Music (Gathering Room) 7 p.m. Keystone Concert Band (ASH)</p>	9	<p><b>10</b> 11 a.m. Ready for School, Ready to Succeed (Sts. Peter and Paul)</p>	<p><b>11</b> 5 p.m. W &amp; S (Chapel)</p>
<p><b>12</b> 8:30 a.m. W &amp; S (Nave/YouTube) 9:45 a.m. Adult Faith Formation (Gathering Room) 11 a.m. W&amp;S (Nave)</p>	<p><b>13</b> 9:30 a.m. W/ELCA (Gathering Room) 6:30 p.m. Cub Scout Pack 42 (ASH) 6:30 p.m. Council (Gathering Room)</p>	<p><b>14</b> 9:30 a.m. Workshop (St. Lydia/ASH) 10 a.m. Ready for School, Ready to Succeed (Sts. Peter and Paul) 7 p.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry (Martin Luther)</p>	<p><b>15</b> 9:30 a.m. W&amp;S (Chapel) 7 p.m. Keystone Concert Band (ASH)</p>	16	<p><b>17</b> 11 a.m. Ready for School, Ready to Succeed (Sts. Peter and Paul)</p>	<p><b>18</b> 5 p.m. W &amp; S (Chapel)</p>
<p><b>19 Feb. Call Deadline</b> 8:30 a.m. W &amp; S (Nave/YouTube) 9:45 a.m. Adult Faith Formation (Gathering Room) 11 a.m. W&amp;S (Nave)</p>	<p><b>20 MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR'S BIRTHDAY</b>  <b>Church Office CLOSED</b></p>	<p><b>21</b> 9:30 a.m. Workshop (St. Lydia/ASH) 10 a.m. Ready for School, Ready to Succeed (Sts. Peter and Paul) 7 p.m. Pastor's Bible Study (Gathering Room)</p>	<p><b>22</b> 9:30 a.m. W&amp;S (Chapel)  7 p.m. Keystone Concert Band (ASH)</p>	23	<p><b>24</b> 11 a.m. Ready for School, Ready to Succeed (Sts. Peter and Paul)</p>	<p><b>25</b> 5 p.m. W &amp; S (Chapel)</p>
<p><b>26</b> 8:30 a.m. W &amp; S (Nave/YouTube) 9:45 a.m. Adult Faith Formation (Gathering Room) 11 a.m. W&amp;S (Nave) 6:30 p.m. Living Room Dialogue (Martin Luther)</p>	<p><b>27</b> 6:30 p.m. Cub Scout Pack 42 (ASH)</p>	<p><b>28</b> 9:30 a.m. Workshop (St. Lydia/ASH)  10 a.m. Ready for School, Ready to Succeed (Sts. Peter &amp; Paul)</p>	<p><b>29</b> 9:30 a.m. W&amp;S (Chapel)  7:00 p.m. Keystone Concert Band (ASH)</p>	30	<p><b>31</b> 11 a.m. Ready for School, Ready to Succeed (Sts. Peter and Paul)</p>	

**Health Ministries Wish List  
Christ Lutheran Church  
124 South 13th Street,  
Harrisburg**

**Items needed:**

Bayer contour blood glucose test strips  
Tussin CF cough medicine  
honey • lice shampoo • allergy eye drops  
Similasan pinkeye drops  
sugar-free cough drops • shoe inserts  
men's & women's socks • underwear  
t-shirts • chapstick • toothpaste  
toothbrush • deodorant • soap  
back supports/braces  
HP LaserJet toner, 85A & 83A  
quality orthotics (knee, ankle, wrist braces)  
muscle rub pain relief cream  
hot/cold packs for muscle pain  
coffee • tea • sugar • powdered creamer

**Harrisburg Area Food Pantry**

**Needed Items — The Basics**

**Canned Items**

baby food  
fruit juice  
meats (tuna, stew)  
peanut butter  
soups  
spaghetti sauce  
tomatoes  
vegetables

**Packaged Items**

baby formula  
cereal  
crackers  
mac & cheese dinners  
powdered milk  
pudding  
jello  
ramen noodles  
rice  
spaghetti

**Other items:** Cake mix, flour, pancake mix  
**condiments:** jam, jelly, mustard,  
ketchup, salad dressing, salt (no sugar due to mice)  
**toiletry items:** soap, shampoo, toothpaste,  
deodorant. baby diapers.

**Please place donated items in our  
shopping cart in the Breezeway.**

**REMINDER:  
JANUARY 5 is Food Pantry Sunday.**

**Our Purpose**

To be the eyes, ears, hands, feet, and voice of Jesus.

**Guiding Principles**

When you see us at our best, you will see us in worship and living our faith by being:

welcoming/accepting  
generous and giving  
supportive and caring  
active/involved  
joyful  
spiritual/faithful

*Adopted by the Congregation Council of  
Good Shepherd on October 11, 2020*



**Church Office**

9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Monday through Thursday

Phone: 717-564-0385

email: [goodshepherdpxtang@gmail.com](mailto:goodshepherdpxtang@gmail.com)

website: [www.goodshepherdpxtang.com](http://www.goodshepherdpxtang.com)

**Holy Eucharist**

5:00 p.m. Saturday (Chapel)

8:30 a.m. Sunday (Nave)

11:00 a.m. Sunday (Nave)

9:30 a.m. Wednesday (Chapel)