

SHELLS MESSENGER
Shells Evangelical Lutheran Church
February 2025
Vibrant Worship + Active Service
Accessible Education + Enriching Fellowship
287 Shells Church Road, Grantville, PA 17028
717-469-2586
www.shellschurch.org
We are a community of the Triune God, nourished by Word and Sacrament, sent forth by the Holy Spirit into the Grantville community and beyond to share the life-changing news of the Gospel of Jesus Christ in word and deed.

The Second Sunday of Christmas



2024 First Annual Shells-Giving Party



The Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord 2025



This month's special offering will go to benefit ELCA World Hunger. Please pick up an envelope in the narthex.

We will celebrate the Feast of the Conversion of St. Paul at St. John Hoernestown on January 25 at 6:30pm. Food and fellowship will follow.

Please bring a candle to worship on February 2 at 9am to be blessed on the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord/Candlemas. This is also Scout Sunday so please wear your uniforms! Be sure to stay after worship for brunch in the Social Hall.

Please contact Father Barnes to set up an Epiphany House Blessing during the months of January and February.

Please take home a piece of blessed chalk to inscribe the 2025 Epiphany Blessing on your front doors: 20 + C + M + B + 25. The 20 and 25 mark the year. The C, M, and B are the first letter of the traditional names of each of the Magi (Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar) and the Latin phrase *Christus Mansionem Benedica* (May Christ bless this house). The + represents Christ himself.

The 2025 Altar Flower chart is in the Narthex. The following dates are still available: February 23, April 27, May 11, June 22, July 20 & 27, August 10 & 31 and November 16.

We will celebrate the Feast of the Chair of St. Peter at St. John Hoernestown on February 22 at 6:30pm. Food and fellowship will follow.

Save the date for the annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper on March 4 from 5:30-7:30pm. Be sure to arrive to participate in the 6:15pm burning of the palm branches to be used for ashes on Ash Wednesday.

We will begin the Holy Season of Lent with Ash Wednesday on March 5 at 7pm.

Thank you to all of you who donated items, talents and time to help with the racetrack project this year. We pulled off a very big feat and I thank you all for all of your kindness towards this project. We will continue again this year to collect items each month of the year. **January & February** will be towels & wash clothes, March & April will be shave cream and razors (both men & women), May & June will be deodorant and shampoo, July & August will be toothbrushes and toothpaste, September & October will be bar soap & combs and November & December will be tissues and lip balm. Thank you all for all of your help and continued support of this worth cause.

~Louise Murphy

SHELLS MUSIC MINISTRY

*Let the whole creation cry,
 "Glory to the Lord on high!"
 Heav'n and earth, awake and sing,
 "Praise to our almighty king!"*

*Men and women, young and old,
 raise the anthem loud and bold,
 and let children's happy hearts
 in this worship take their parts.*

Let the Whole Creation Cry: ELW #876

The time after Epiphany is bookended by the festivals of the Baptism of Our Lord and the Transfiguration. The time between these bookends focuses on the way God is made manifest in the world in Jesus Christ. In 2025 the time after Epiphany spans two months, taking us through highlights of Jesus' ministry and teachings--his first miracle or "sign" as John calls it, with the wedding at Cana, where Jesus changes water into wine; Jesus' ministry with his appearance in the synagogue; the miracle of the abundance of fish and calling his first disciples; and Jesus' great sermon--the beatitudes-- considered one of the most popular gospel readings in the New Testament. Our music during this time reflects the themes of light, baptism, cross and discipleship. The season of Epiphany concludes with the Transfiguration of Our Lord.*

An invitation to join choir and share in our music ministry is extended to all! **Senior Choir** rehearses **Thursday** evenings from **7:00 – 8:15pm**.

Our **Children in Worship** Sunday School music program continues for our children in preschool through fifth grade, providing opportunities for them to share in worship in many ways. The children will be participating in worship on Sunday, **February 2**, with Shells Bells playing "*This Little Light*."

Children & Youth Hand Chime Choir for grades 2nd through senior high youth continues with rehearsals the **first and third Sunday** of each month from **10:30 – 11:00am**. We're learning ringing techniques, recognizing notes and working on music for worship. Please join us to discover the joy of Handchimes!

CHOIR SCHEDULE:

Feb. 2 – *Children In Worship – Shells Bells – "This Little Light"*

Feb. 9– "*Here I Am, Lord*" – *Senior Choir*

Feb. 16 – "*Kum Ba Yah*" – *Senior Choir; Hand Chime Choir – "O Jesus So Sweet"*

Feb. 23 – "*Make Me a Channel of Your Peace*" – *Senior Choir*

Mar. 2 – *Children In Worship – Shells Bells – "Fairest Lord Jesus"*

Please don't hesitate to call, text or email if you have any questions –
 Cell phone, 717-991-8862; or email at scdbjd@aol.com.

In joyful songs of praise,
 Barbara Dupler
 Director of Music

**Sundays and Seasons, Augsburg Fortress*

STEWARDSHIP/GIVING (*December 31, 2024*)**2024 Approved Budget \$277, 995**

Income: \$282,450.26	Love of Family Contributions: \$5,565
Expenses: \$272,802.53	Local Food Pantry Contributions: \$4,523.81
Capital Improvement Contributions: \$39,625	Abiding Memorial Fund: \$1,405
Adult Forum: \$409.51	Emily Lingle, Friends in Action: \$1,195
Richard Sarker, Missionary: \$1,050	Lutheran Campus Ministry at WVU: \$5,122
World Vision (VBS): \$1,050	ELCA World Hunger: \$1,362.01
Anonymous Donation: \$1,000	Lutheran Disaster Response: \$23,410

BAPTISMAL ANNIVERSARIES – FEBRUARY

<i>Lily Klos</i>	<i>Lucas Smith</i>
<i>Brenda Frye</i>	<i>Keith Espenshade</i>
<i>Ruth Espenshade</i>	<i>Rick Smith</i>
<i>Jared Espenshade</i>	<i>Evelyn Jurell</i>
<i>Tom Terry</i>	

God will never forget that you are his child.

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

Feb 01	Kathy Peffer
	Patty Harmon
Feb 07	Randy Gotshall
	Blaine Moreland
Feb 15	Karen Gussler
Feb 16	Gabe Gonzales
Feb 18	Barbara Dupler
Feb 19	Jeremy Longreen
Feb 20	Connie Terry
	Evelyn Jurell
Feb 21	John Terry
Feb 23	Edward Elliott
Feb 25	Gerry Hess
Feb 26	Livy Leese
	Don Lind
	Tami Crow

PRAYER LIST

Prayers for healing of body, mind, or spirit: Linda DeMario, Betty Espenshade, Don Espenshade, Mim Fake, Ed Fake, Herb Fisher, Al German, Angie Gonzales, Randy Gotshall, Bert Gussler, Nancy Iachini, Tom Kamerzel, Terry Kamerzel, Keira K, Iva Rodemaker, Lucas Smith, Larry Suhr, Don Whitehaus, Bev Ulsh and Jack Ulsh, our homebound members, our Law Enforcement Officers and Service Women & Men, especially Matt Gordon, Crist Espenshade, Nikolas Jaggan, Domonic DeFrank, Keegan Wenner, Stephen Lugovich, Blake O'Brien, Michael Knaub, John Thomas and Chris O'Brien.

Those who have died:

Those in the Shells Church Catechumenate Process (*please pray for the formation of those preparing for full Confirmed/Voting membership in this congregation*): Jordan Frye, Lexi Frye Emma Jurell, Evelyn Mende, Julia O'Brien, and Nora Holler.

Family & Friends: Saadia Baker, Nancy Balmer, Skip Balmer, Bill Birtle, Tom Boblitz, Dawn Brink, Owen Burns, David Cavanaugh, Cory Cerperich, Dianne Czupil, Karen Domenico, Verna Ebersole, Joan Espenshade, Jeanne Flickinger, Christie Gamber, Michael Gelehorte, Anne Gordon, Marian Gudelski, Tom Gussler, Emily Hand, Rob Herman, Michael Hudak, James Judd, Lydia Joy Konisiewicz, zJoanne Lauver, Lee Lippi, Eileen Longreen, Paul Longreen, Chris Kelly, Pokhim Ker, Dan Martin, Barb Morrow, Amanda Peck, Maisie Peeler, Lisa Pesta, Tony Prisco, Michael Riley, Laura Lou Rinker, Ken Rebuck, Molly Reinhart, June Rohrbach, Yvonne Rosenberger, Ryan, Allison Simpson, Suzanne Shaeffer, Bill Shultz, Janet Shultz, Kathy Spangler, Jay Stahl, Steve Tentylo, Arlene Terry, Stephanie Wagner, Aria Wenner, Kyle Wentz, Carol Wilson, and Jennie Womack.

Anyone wishing to place someone on the prayer list may call Theresa at the Shells Office, at 717-469-2586 or email at shellsadmin@shellschurch.org. Also, please remember to remove the names when it is appropriate.

Worship Assistants Schedule: February/March

	Assistant	Lector	Acolyte	Communion Assistant	Greeter /Usher	Altar Care
February 2 Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time	Raelene Smith	Julia O'Brien	Anna Iachini, Emma Jurell, and Mary Shellenberger	Louise Murphy	Joe & Diana Budd	Diana Budd & Carol Gordon
February 9 Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time	Karen Gussler	Diane Gotshall	Lucas Terry	Audrey Neiswender	Rich & Nadine Espenshade	Ralene Smith & Janet Klos
February 16 Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time	Sherry Ulsh	Lisa Lugovich	Lily Iachini	Louise Murphy	Bert & Karen Gussler	Louise Murphy, Karen Gussler & Bobbie Boyer

February 23 Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time	Karlene Jaggan	Karen Gussler	Lauren O'Brien	Audrey Neiswender	Rick & Linda Blair	Diane Suhr & Terry Kamerzel
March 2 Transfiguration of the Lord	Karlene Jaggan	Emma Jurell	Anna Iachini, Lily Iachini, and Abigal Blair	Don Whitehaus	Tom & Sandy Mader	Steve & Kathy Espenshade
March 5 Ash Wednesday at 7pm	Karlene Jaggan	Steve Espenshade	Emma Jurell, Lucas Terry, and Juila O'Brien	Audrey Neiswender	Rich & Nadine Espenshade	
March 9 First Sunday of Lent	Raelene Smith	Nadine Espenshade	Douglass Howard	Audrey Neiswender	Rich & Nadine Espenshade	Sandy Mader & Katie Shellenberger
March 16 Second Sunday of Lent	Karen Gussler	Brenda Frye	Julia O'Brien	Louise Murphy	Joe & Diana Budd	Diana Budd & Carol Gordon
March 23 Third Sunday of Lent	Sherry Ulsh	Steve Espenshade	Abigail Blair	Audrey Neiswender	Bert & Karen Gussler	Raelene Smith & Janet Klos
March 25 Annunciation of the Lord at 7pm	Gen Whitehaus	Lisa Lugovich	Douglass Howard	Louise Murphy	Joe & Diana Budd	
March 30 Fourth Sunday of Lent	Karlene Jaggan	Erica Strang	Lauren O'Brien	Louise Murphy	Tom & Sandy Mader	Louise Murphy, Karen Gussler & Bobbie Boyer

If you are unable to serve on your scheduled date please find a replacement and notify the Church Office by Wednesday of each week.

FEBRUARY 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 Presentation of the Lord <i>Children in Worship and Scout Sunday</i> 10:30am Hand Chime Choir Brunch at Shells 1pm Scout Meeting 6pm Boy Scouts	3 6:30pm Bible Study @ St John	4 6pm Cub Scouts	5 6pm Girl Scouts	6 6pm Cub Scouts 7pm Choir Rehearsal 7pm Harrisburg Conference Assembly for Synod Assembly Reps @ Christ Linglestown	7	8
9 Ordinary Time 5 9am Sunday School & Confirmation 10:45am Adult Forum 6pm Boy Scouts	10 6:30pm Bible Study @ Shells	11 6pm Cub Scouts 6:30pm Lions Club 6:30pm Parish Council Meeting	12 6pm Girl Scouts	13 6pm Cub Scouts 7pm Choir Rehearsal <i>Fr. Barnes Chicago</i>	14 <i>Fr. Barnes Chicago</i>	15 <i>Fr. Barnes Chicago</i>
16 Ordinary Time 6 9am Sunday School & Confirmation 10:30am Hand Chime Choir 10:45am Adult Forum 6pm Boy Scouts	17 5pm Race-track Meal 6:30pm Bible Study @ St. John	18 6pm Cub Scouts 6pm 200 th Anniversary Meeting	19 6pm Girl Scouts Grantville Food Pantry	20 6pm Cub Scouts 7pm Choir Rehearsal Grantville Food Pantry	21 Grantville Food Pantry	22 6:30pm Feast of the Chair of St. Peter @ St. John
23 Ordinary Time 7 9am Sunday School & Confirmation 10:45am Adult Forum Youth Group 6pm Boy Scouts	24 6:30pm Bible Study @ Shells	25	26	27 7pm Choir Rehearsal	28	

**SHELLS EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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The Rev. W. L. Barnes, III, STS, Pastor

Cell: 717-870-4505
Email: fatherbarnes3@gmail.com

Barbara Dupler, Director of Music

Email: scdbjd@aol.com

Theresa Reidmiller, Administrative Assistant

Email: shellsadmin@shellschurch.org

Charles Schreiber, Treasurer

Email: charlieschreiber@embarqmail.com

Council Members:

C. Blair, S. Espenshade, B. Frye (VP), C. Frye (S), S. Mader (P), M. Stremmel, T. Terry, S. Ulsh(T)