

SHELLS MESSENGER
Shells Evangelical Lutheran Church
March 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.



Presentation of the Lord/Scout Sunday 2025



Hershey Bears Game - January 2025



Pinewood Derby 2025

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. We begin our forty-day journey toward Easter with a day of fasting and repentance. Marking our foreheads with dust, we acknowledge that we die and return to the earth. At the same time, the dust traces the life-giving cross indelibly marked on our foreheads at baptism. While we journey through Lent to return to God, we have already been reconciled to God through Christ. We humbly pray for God to make our hearts clean while we rejoice that “now is the day of salvation.” Returning to our baptismal call, we more intentionally bear the fruits of mercy and justice in the world.

PRAYER + FASTING + ALMSGIVING

Stations of the Cross will be held in the church every Friday in Lent at Noon.

The Grantville Ministerium will gather each Wednesday in Lent for worship and fellowship. Soup and Sandwiches will be served at 5:45pm with worship beginning at 7pm. The theme for this year is Lent: A Call to Repentance. 3/12 at Shells. 3/19 at Faith UCC, 3/26 at St. John UMC, 4/2 at St. John Hoernerstown, 4/9 at St. John UMC.

During the Lenten Season we will again be collecting items to make Personal Care Kits for Lutheran World Relief. This will begin on Ash Wednesday. There will be a basket in the Narthex to place the items. The items needed for these kits are a lightweight bath towel, 2 bath size soaps, a toothbrush, and metal nail clippers. Your donation of one or many items will be greatly appreciated. If you have any questions, please see Sheryl or Connie. Thank you in advance.

This month’s special offering will go to benefit the Grantville Food Pantry. Please pick up an envelope in the narthex to support this vital ministry to our local community.

The 2025 Altar Flower chart is in the Narthex. The following dates are still available: June 22, July 27, August 10 & 31.

The racetrack project will be collecting items each month this year. 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.

200th Anniversary needs by May 1: Baby photos of parishioners (regardless if photo was taken at Shells or you were a member at that time) as well as any Shells memorabilia - Baptism, Confirmation, Wedding certificates and older Shells bulletins or newsletters, etc. These items will be returned to you after the June 8th Open House.

Would you be interested in telling others about Shells Church? Do you love our VBS or worship/music ministries? Are you involved with a specific service or fellowship ministry of the congregation that you’re excited about? Have you been a lifelong member of the congregation? Are you new to Shells? Regardless of how the Holy Spirit brought you here and how you are living out your baptismal calling in this congregation, we need you for our welcome video marking our 200th Anniversary. Mark your calendars for Sundays March 2 and 30th as our videographer will be at the church to record parts of Worship and Sunday School. We would like to FILL THE PEWS for this opportunity to invite others to the parish and the life of this amazing community of faith. Please reach out to Fr. Barnes if you’d be interested in being interviewed for the video audio.

SHELLS MUSIC MINISTRY

*O Lord, throughout these forty days
you prayed and kept the fast;
inspire repentance for our sin
and free us from our past.*

ELW 319

On March 5, Ash Wednesday, we begin our forty-day Lenten journey toward Easter. Our hymns, songs and choral repertoire for the season portray a wide array of the images and subjects that help us actively remember the Paschal Mystery -- our Lord's suffering, death and resurrection. The Senior Choir is working on psalmody and choral offerings, enhancing and leading the congregation in worship.

An invitation to join choir and share in our music ministry is extended to senior high youth through adults! **Senior Choir** rehearses **Thursday evenings 7:00 – 8:15pm**. Please join us!

Our ***Children In Worship*** Sunday School music program continues for our children in preschool through sixth grade. Shells Bells, our children's bell choir, play and learn music as part of the Sunday school opening each week, in Miss Connie's classroom, beginning at 9am. The children will take part in worship on **March 2**. **Shells Bells** is playing "*Fairest Lord Jesus*," and the **Handchime Choir** will be playing "*O Jesus So Sweet*."

Our Children & Youth **Handchime Choir** rehearsals continue for grades 2nd through senior high, the **first and third Sunday** of each month. We rehearse in the choir room immediately following worship, 10:30-11:00am. Our ringers are working on music for the Lenten and Easter season. Please join us to discover handchimes!

CHOIR SCHEDULE:

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

Handchime Choir - "*O Jesus So Sweet*" (*Offertory*)

Mar. 5 – Ash Wednesday (7:00pm) "*A Right Sprit*" – *Senior Choir*

Mar. 9 – "*Be Thou My Vision*" – *Senior Choir*

Mar. 12 – Mid-Week Lenten Service (7:00pm) *Senior Choir*

Mar. 16 – "*Thy Holy Wings*" – *Senior Choir*

Mar. 23 – No Choir

Mar. 30 – "*How Can I Keep from Singing*" – *Senior Choir*

April 6 – *Children In Worship*

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

STEWARDSHIP/GIVING (*January 31, 2025*)**2025 Approved Budget \$295,815**

Income: \$17,003.77

Love of Family Contributions: \$0

Expenses: \$28,521.57

Grantville Food Pantry Contributions: \$220

Capital Improvement Contributions: \$415

Abiding Memorial Fund: \$270

Adult Forum: \$70

BAPTISMAL ANNIVERSARIES – MARCH*Rick Blair* *Rich Espenshade**Diane Gotshall* *Terry Kamerzel**Jack Ulsh* *Mildred Bower**Patty Harmon* *Bert Gussler**Karen Lingle* *Connie Terry****God will never forget that you are his child.*****BIRTHDAY GREETINGS**

| | |
|--------|-----------------------|
| Mar 02 | Nadine Hoover |
| Mar 05 | Stephen Shellenberger |
| Mar 12 | Raelene Smith |
| Mar 16 | David Terry |
| Mar 19 | Ken Espenshade |
| | Dave Rodemaker |
| Mar 20 | Mike Hilbert |
| | Evan Dupler |
| Mar 22 | Michael Hilbert, II |
| Mar 23 | Herb Fisher |
| | Colton Tolland |
| Mar 24 | Colton O'Brien |
| Mar 25 | Patricia Dengel |
| Mar 26 | Brian Long |
| Mar 27 | Kyle Gordon |
| Mar 28 | Tyler Smith |
| Mar 29 | Evelyn Wiltraut |
| Mar 30 | Tom Mader |
| | Emily Dupler |
| Mar 31 | Rick Crow |

PRAYER LIST

Prayers for healing of body, mind, or spirit: Linda DeMario, Betty Espenshade, Don Espenshade, Mim Fake, Ed Fake, Herb Fisher, Al Germann, Angie Gonzales, Randy Gotshall, Bert Gussler, Alfred Howard, Douglass Howard Jr., Nancy Iachini, Tom Kamerzel, Terry Kamerzel, Keira K, Iva Rodemaker, Rena Sattazahn, Lucas Smith, Larry Suhr, Bev Ulsh and Jack Ulsh Don Whitehaus, 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: Lillian "Fran" Frances Mummert

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, Kathie 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, Ben Isett, James Judd, Elaine Julian, Lydia Joy Konisiewicz, Joanne 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: March/April

| | Assistant | Lector | Acolyte | Communion Assistant | Greeter /Usher | Altar Care |
|--|----------------|-------------------|---|---------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| March 2 Transfiguration of the Lord | Karlene Jaggan | Emma Jurell | Anna Iachini, Lily Iachini, and Abigail Blair | Don Whitehaus | Tom & Sandy Mader | Steve, Kathy & Bethany 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 |
| April 6 Fifth Sunday of Lent | Karen Gussler | Lexi Frye | Anna Iachini, Emma Jurell, and Evelyn Mende | Audrey Neiswender | Joe & Diana Budd | Diane Suhr & Terry Kamerzel |
| April 13 Palm/Passion Sunday | Raelene Smith | Ed Fake and Confirmation Students | Lucas Terry, Lauren O'Brien, and Douglass Howard | Louise Murphy | Tom & Sandy Mader | Steve, Kathy & Bethany Espenshade |
| April 17 Maundy Thursday at 7pm | Karlene Jaggan and Karen Gussler | Nadine Espenshade | Lucas Terry, Abigail Blair, and Julia O'Brien | Audrey Neiswender | Rick & Linda Blair | |
| April 18 Good Friday at 7pm | Karlene Jaggan | Steve Espenshade | Douglass Howard | Louise Murphy | Joe & Diana Budd | |
| April 19 Easter Vigil at 7pm | Karlene Jaggan | Karen Gussler, Steve Espenshade, Lisa Lugovich, and Nadine Espenshade | Mary Shellenberger, Jacob Mende, and Gabe Gonzales | Deacon Kristen Barnes | Tom & Sandy Mader | |
| April 20 Easter Sunday | Karen Gussler | Raelene Smith | Anna Iachini, Emma Jurell, and Douglass Howard | Louise Murphy | Rich & Nadine Espenshade | Sandy Mader & Katie Shellenberger |
| April 27 The Second Sunday of Easter | Gen Whitehaus | Lisa Lugovich | Abigail Blair | Don Whitehaus | Rick & Linda Blair | Diana Budd & Carol Gordon |

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

MARCH 2025

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---|---|---|--|--|--------------------------------|
| | | | | | | 1 |
| 2 Transfiguration of the Lord <i>Children in Worship</i> 10:30am Hand Chime Choir Cub Scout Meeting 6pm Boy Scouts | 3 6:30pm Bible Study @ St John | 4 5:30-7:30pm Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper | 5 6pm Girl Scouts 4pm Ash Wednesday at St. John 7pm Ash Wednesday at Shells | 6 6pm Cub Scouts 7pm Choir Rehearsal | 7 Noon-Stations of the Cross | 8 Family Fun Bowling |
| 9 Lent 1 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 7pm Mid-week Lenten Worship at Shells | 13 6pm Cub Scouts 7pm Choir Rehearsal | 14 Noon - Stations of the Cross | 15 |
| 16 Lent 2 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 7pm Mid-week Lenten Worship at Faith UCC Grantville Food Pantry | 20 6pm Cub Scouts 7pm Harrisburg Conference Assembly for Synod Assembly Reps. Grantville Food Pantry | 21 Noon - Stations of the Cross Grantville Food Pantry | 22 |
| 23 Lent 3 9am Sunday School & Confirmation 10:45am Adult Forum Youth Group 6pm Boy Scouts | 24 6:30pm Bible Study @ Shells | 25 7pm Annunciation of the Lord at Shells | 26 7pm Mid-week Lenten Worship at St. John UMC | 27 | 28 Noon - Stations of the Cross | 29 |
| 30 Lent 4 9am Sunday School & Confirmation 10:45am Adult Forum 6pm Boy Scouts | | | | | | |

**SHELLS EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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Grantville, PA 17028
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Church website: shellschurch.org

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

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

Barbara Dupler, Director of Music

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Charles Schreiber, Treasurer

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Council Members:

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