



From Our Council President, Lei

"We are doing the best we can!"

As many of you know, our daughter, Anne, works as an undergraduate research assistant for one of her professors. The lab she works in contains years of experiments in current states of use or left abandoned by past graduate and undergraduate assistants. While she was working this summer, a group of unfamiliar faces appeared. The Ohio EPA had come to pay a visit. Although the lab had no serious violations, the EPA did order them to clean up, especially after one of the ladies walked across the floor yelling "Sticky! Sticky! Sticky! Sticky!" Unfortunately, that clean up became a major undertaking. Years of past experiments, some older than the students currently working there, had to be discarded properly in various waste bags. There were many days that the task at hand seemed insurmountable. At one point, Anne and another undergrad stopped to take a break. The other student looked at Anne and flatly stated "We are doing the best we can!"

"We are doing the best we can!" has become somewhat of a motto in our household now. When the going gets tough, or something just isn't working out, usually Anne or I exclaim that famous phrase and frequently start laughing. We have found it best to stop, take a breath or a break, and then start again.

I suspect "We are doing the best we can!" is the way things are going to be at Good Shepherd for a while until we get used to not having Ed around. Although Ed has left us in a good spot by organizing so many things ahead of time, I'm sure there are things that we will discover along the way that we had forgotten about. I don't expect this transition to be seamless.

Thank you to all who have volunteered to help take on Ed's office responsibilities. I will be taking on the bulletins and newsletter since I am already familiar with the program and have access to the full worship service information. Please send your announcements or information for those items to my email or the church office email, or you can always call me or hand me notes on Sunday morning too. I plan to print the bulletins on Thursday so we will keep the weekly bulletin deadline on Wednesday. We'll also keep the newsletter deadline on the 20th of each month as it remains now. We'll see how that goes, and if it needs changed we'll change it. Thank you to all who have offered to help with the bulletins and newsletters, but, unfortunately, I have to have the process firmly in hand before I can train someone else to do it.

THE VOICE

January 2024

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

4120 Cleveland Ave. NW

Canton, Ohio 44709 330.492.2743

A huge thank you goes out to Pat Hoffman who will be temporarily accompanying our services. Pat does not want to do this every Sunday, so if you know of anyone in the music realm who could help us out please let me know. We will be exploring our options, in depth, after the first of the year.

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For all the rest of you who are taking on additional responsibilities, please let me know who you are and what responsibilities you are taking. Communication is going to be key in getting this whole process working well. If you have questions, call or email me. I may not have the answers, but we will figure it out together, and remember, "We are doing the best we can!"

Faithfully,

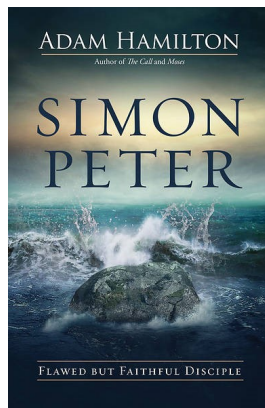
Lei Fahrner

So many thanks to all of you for the extremely generous Christmas gift! Your generosity always overwhelms and humbles me, and my words of thanks seem so terribly inadequate. Thank you all so much for your continued support and your willingness to take on additional responsibilities this year. May you all have a very safe, healthy and prosperous 2024. A thousand thanks to all of you!!!

Lei

Lenten Bible Study

He left everything to follow his teacher and possessed a passion that would change the world. That's one way to describe Peter. Here's another: poor, uneducated, quick-tempered, and full of doubts and fears. Doesn't even sound like the same man. And that's the point of *Simon Peter*, a six-week adult Bible study by Adam Hamilton. Peter was just an ordinary guy who heard and followed God's extraordinary call. Discover how you, too, have special gifts, talents, and abilities that God can use to make a difference today.



I'm not very with good with things like this, but I will give it a try.

Thank you for the last 7.5 years here at GSLC.

We've been through a lot...losing two pastors (one due to resignation and the other by death), Covid, difficulty in finding a pastor, and trying to understand a post Covid church.

There have been some great things also, joint worship with our brother and sisters at Zion UCC, a new organ in 2019, Summit Bells, Heather Cooper in concert, bible studies with Zion UCC, sharing meals and fellowship among GSLC and Zion UCC and the presence of Pr. Eli.

Thank for the gathering on December 17th after worship and sharing your generous gifts and cards.

As I begin a new adventure know that you will be missed.

Thanks! Ed

Wednesday Feb. 21, 28, Mar. 8, 16, 20

Zion UCC @ 6:30

Books are available



The calendar is posted on the bulletin board across from the office.

Dear Good Shepherd Family,

We appreciated the Christmas Eve Service and being with you all! The wonderful music with the organ, choir and bell choir were outstanding! Ed will surely be missed but the memories that he created will always remain! We thank Lei for her message and her leadership! And we thank you all for gifting us with the beautiful altar flowers!

You shall always remain in our hearts and we pray that God will continue to bless you as you serve Him.

Our love,
Pastor Paul and Marilyn

Annual Congregation Meeting

Sunday, January 28th following worship

Adopt 2024 Budget

Elect to council two new members

Updates on various projects

We need 30 members to constitute a quorum



December 13 meeting highlights

Congregational Meeting will be January 28th

Need the end of year reports by the first week of January- email to Lei

Members who haven't communed or given in the past two years were removed from the rolls as per our constitution.. This does NOT include shut-ins. These folks can be put back on the rolls by completing the above items.

Additional costs of the parking lot...

Remove the landscaping island and add an additional parking space: \$1500

Install 3 large concrete blocks at the second entrance

Install 2 gates (post and chain) at second and third entrance: \$1200

Total additional costs: \$3405

Total costs for parking lot: \$59,900 + \$3405 = \$63,305

The work will be done sometime in the spring or summer. They will let us know a week in advance.

There will be two new council members to vote in at the congregational meeting...

Linda L – Fellowship

Gary M- Worship and Music

Communion has been going to shut-ins again under the leadership of Pat Long.

Pledges and estimates of giving are at 139K for 2024. Pledges for 2023 at 90% as November 30th.

Discussion on rentals to non-church-related groups. Canton Primetimers have been not leaving the space as clean as it should be after their events. Council voted to discontinue them from using our space. Their last event will be December 30th.

November	Starting	\$65,015.69
	Receipts	\$17,910.00
	Disbursements	\$8,061.67
	Transfers	\$0.00
	Ending	\$74,864.02

Prayer List

Those who have issues getting out and about sometimes.

Lora C
Janice C
Marian
Judy H
Charlene J
John S
Robin S
Marian T

If you wish to be included, please let the office know.

Help Support Our Organization!

SHOP ACME Fresh Market & EARN 5% CASH BACK

Collection box in gathering space

IT'S EASY!

Save your Acme Fresh Market receipts dated August 1, 2023 – February 15, 2024 to help us raise money!

Earn 5% Back on Participating Brands!

Earn 5% Community Cash Back on these Participating Brands:

ACME Fresh Market, food club, TopCare, tippy toes, simply done, CIRCLE, Sweet P's, Paws Happy Life, WIDE AWAKE COFFEE CO., PURE HARMONY, THAT'S SMART!, Cape Covelle, Over the TOP.



To my dear friends at
Good Shepherd, my "home
away from home."

I am so thankful for
your generous Christmas gift.
Thank you! But I also thank
you for your love, support &
encouragement as you allow
me the privilege and pleasure
of preaching from your pulpit.
Thank you Lei for sharing it
with me.

A friendly New Year greeting
AND A special line to say
How much
your kind thought ADDED
to a happy holiday!

Grace & Peace,
Eli



1.05: Bob G
1.13: Alan F
1.17: Chuck P
1.18: Tracy S
1.23: Judy F
1.27: Rod L

If you birthday or anniversary is not listed here, it's because it's not in record keeping system.



Hannah Circle

*Tuesday, January 2
at 10am*

Thank you! Thank you!

Thank you to everyone who made, baked or brought in items for our make & bake sale. Especially those who made a purchase. As always you are awesome. We made 318.00. Thanks again and Happy New Years.

We were able to contribute \$,1, 010.00 to A Community Christmas.



Collected

Mittens: 85
Hats: 47
Scarves: 14





JANUARY 2024

Newsletter deadline is the 20th of each month.

Bulletin deadline is Wednesday 12 noon.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 Fifth Sunday worship at Zion UCC 10a	1	2 Hannah Cir 10a Dominoes 7pm	3 AA 7p	4 Yoga 10a	5 Quilting 10a	6
7 Pr. Eli here Worship 9:15a Un-decorate church after worship	8	9 Dominoes 7pm	10 AA 7p Council 7pm	11 Yoga 10a	12 C&C 10a	13
14 Worship 9:15a S. School 10:30a	15	16 Dominoes 7pm	17 AA 7p	18 Yoga 10a	19 Quilting 10a	20
21 Pr. Eli here Worship 9:15a S. School 10:30a	22	23 Dominoes 7pm	24 AA 7p	25 Yoga 10a	26 C&C 10a	27
28 Worship 9:15a S. School 10:30a	29	30 Dominoes 7pm	31 AA 7p	1 Yoga 10a	2 Quilting 10a	3