



STAFF

May

Issue 05-05

A publication of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church * 901 E. Stroop Road Kettering, OH
Thomas D. Prochaska: 937/298-0136 Fax: 937/299-1170
gslchurch@woh.rr.com • www.goodshepherdkettering.com

National Day of Prayer & Ascension Worship

What do you think of when the Ascension of Our Lord comes to mind? I think of a devotional article written years ago (in the 80's) in *The Christian Century* magazine by William Willimon, who was at that time Dean of the Chapel at Duke University. (William Willimon is now a United Methodist Bishop in North Carolina) Pastor Willimon's article on the Ascension began with these words, "Since the Ascension of Our Lord is on Thursday this year." I remember reading that opening line and thinking it was rather an odd way to begin because the Ascension is 40 days after Easter, making Ascension Day, always on a Thursday, every year. Many others read the same line and responded to the editors of the *Century* magazine. In fact, the response was the largest to date of any response *The Christian Century* magazine had ever received. Pastor Willimon, in the next issue, wrote to thank readers for being so alert and the "incident" became something to talk about among the readers

and editors of the *Century* magazine.

The Ascension of Our Lord is Thursday, May 5 this year, the first Thursday of May which also just so happens to be the National Day of Prayer. The first Thursday of May has been designated The National Day of Prayer since 1988.

Gathering for worship together on a Thursday may feel strange because we do not worship on Thursday together only but once a year, on Maundy Thursday. However, it seems that we should not pass up the opportunity to gather for prayer, and songs of prayer and praise on this special Thursday, May 5, this year. The two themes of The National Day of Prayer and the Ascension of Our Lord is our opportunity to add a special weekday worship service to our schedule. We will celebrate worship on Thursday, May 5 at 7:00 PM. Plan to attend this special service of worship.

Dear Partners by Pastor Prochaska



On Ascension Day, we come to worship in prayer and thanksgiving as the light of Christ shines beyond all bonds of space and time, and yet is present here and now in our witness. As we gather for worship on Thursday, we are mindful that we have been sent out into the world to let the light of Christ shine through our words and our actions every day of the week.

I look forward to seeing you on Ascension Day for prayer and worship.

In Christ,

Pastor Prochaska

Member News

Birthdays

- 1 Gwen Hanauer
Terri Schlagheck
- 2 Patty Allen
- 4 Debbie DeVilbiss
- 6 Tom DeVilbiss
- 9 Bill Bowman
Gladys Graveman
Debbie Wolfe
- 11 Donna Rosenbaum
Sois Spitz
- 12 Sara Dittmar
- 14 David Bohlander
- 15 Hedwig Grau
Edith Hayes
- 16 Charolte Bowman
- 18 Ginny Herbeck
Anna Klepper
Harv Reilich
- 20 Bobbie Kosanovich
- 22 Jason Felton
Joe Hample
Kate Steininger
- 24 Felicia Crouch
- 25 Milan Filcik
Sheila Stutrud
- 27 Julie Strohminger
- 28 Kay Frakes
Kay Gilbert
Al Sessler
- 29 Brian Sharits
- 30 Taylor Putney

Memorials For **RICHARD CATON** Given by:

Wil & Tee Johnston
Laura Oliver
Doug & Juanita Hannah
Berthe Weist
Beverly Storts
Debbie Kiser
Mary Brelsford
Joe & Ruth Hample
Poelking Seniors Bowling League
Evelyn M. Lewis

Thank You

Dear Church Friends,

We would like to thank Pastor Prochaska and other members of the church who have taken time to visit with Mom (Ruth Lackey) since her illness. The Church has always been an important part of her life and it has been difficult for her not being able to attend.

Sincerely,

Sue & Dick Lackey

We've Moved!

Carol Brayton

769 Wittelsbach Dr.
Kettering, OH 45429

Tom & Marilyn Edwards

4600 Collingville Way
Columbus, OH 43230
614-855-7069
tomarilyn.edward@att.net

Pat Behn

846 Pine Needles Dr.
Dayton, OH 45458
937-432-0833

The weekend of April 22, 2005, Capital University recognized **Pastor Lowell Hesterman '47** with the *Alumni Distinguished Service Award*. Serving others has been a constant theme throughout Lowell Hesterman's life. From the experiences and education he received at Capital University, he has learned to put others before himself. **He was the founding pastor at Good Shepherd in Kettering, Ohio**, the vice president of the Ethiopian Evangelical Church-Mekane Yesus, acting director for the Division for World Mission of the ALC, co-founder of Global Health Ministries, author, father and friend. In addition to his service as pastor and missionary, he has served on numerous committees and boards at the congregational, synodical, national and international levels. He has written devotional materials for Augsburg Publishing House and is the author of "Pioneer Missionaries of the American Lutheran Church." The Metro Lutheran honored him with its "Faith in Action Award," an award that is given "to those who have changed the world for good." He recalls his fondest memory of Capital as Mr. Bernlohr canceling intramural softball games after the chapel bells rang signifying VE Day in 1945 and Bernlohr saying, "Men, your place is in the church." He took that advice to heart and dedicated his life's work by making his place in the church.

Beautiful Savior

Blessings to all of us as we celebrate and worship our Risen Lord during this beautiful season of Spring. It can be no coincidence that the flowers and trees are beautifully blooming as we celebrate the New Life given to us from our Lord in this Easter season.

I am reminded of the words from the hymn, 'Beautiful Savior':

*Fair are the meadows
Fair are the woodlands
Robed in Flow'rs of blooming
Spring.*

However, no matter how beautiful God's creation is at this time of year, the important lines of the hymn follow:

***Jesus** is fairer,
Jesus is purer
He makes our sorrowing
spirit sing*

As I reflect on this hymn, I think it is particularly appropriate for Good Shepherd at this time. We mourn the loss and celebrate the lives of two faithful servants and most beloved members, Naomi Oehrtman and Milan Filcik. While we are on earth viewing the beauty of God's beautiful creation in Spring, our loved ones are beholding the true Glory and the Face of our

Music Notes by Kimberly Conway

Lord in a place where they can see face to face the true radiance of our Lord's face. They see first hand the words from verse three:

*Jesus shines brighter
Jesus shines purer
Than all the angels in the sky*

We too can see Jesus in each other and in the beauty surrounding us. God is present at our church in all of you. The unique bond of the family at Good Shepherd is always particularly present in times of need among its members. I am no longer surprised when I ask musicians if they would like to participate in funeral or special services, that every person who can possibly be there is present with love, ready to give everything they have to help serve a Good Shepherd family member. Of course this is not unique to the musicians. Countless members show their love and support in numerous ways. The love given to us from our Savior flows from all of you.

That is the greatness of Good Shepherd church. God is pouring Himself into us that we may share His love with others. That is the message to give to neighbors and friends that you invite to come to church. This is not a great church because of the liturgy we use or don't use. It is you the people, and the love of God in us, which makes this church special. The church is God's people, and you, the family of God at Good Shepherd are awesome people. As I have said before, it is an honor to work and worship among you.

*Beautiful Savior,
Lord of the Nations,
Son of God and Son of Man!
Glory and Honor,
Praise, adoration,
Now and forevermore be
Thine!*

Blessings to you all,
Kimberly Conway

WANTED: Hymn Requests

Do you have favorite songs or hymns that you would like to sing during our worship services? Do you have preferences or thoughts about the music we sing? Please put hymn suggestions or any comments in my box. I look forward to hearing from you!

Confirmation is Sunday, May 15th at 11am. The Confirmands this year have designated that they would like to encourage members and friends to join them in financially supporting an agency that works to help people suffering with AIDS. Our Confirmands are Diamond Smelzer, Danny Burrall, Brandon Strohming, and Ben Thieman. Pam Bauser, the H2H advisor/leader is researching (at Staff press time) specific opportunities where members and friends of Good Shepherd can make a special financial contribution. We ask that you watch the weekly Staff bulletin for specific information the first three weeks of May.

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SA |
|---|---|---|--|---|--|--|
| 1 8:30am Classic Praise 9:45am LLL 11am Contemporary Worship 4pm Greater Dayton Handbell Festival 5pm H2H 8 th Grade 6pm H2H Team | 2 10am Staff Mtg. 4:15pm GS Troop #746 6pm Cub Scouts 7pm Bethel Bible | 3 7pm Alzheimer's 7pm Boy Scouts 7pm Executive Board | 4 7pm Chancel Choir | 5 Ascension National Day of Prayer 6:30am Bible Study (Bob Evans) 7pm Worship | 6 4:15pm Ringers & Singers | 7 8am Bib 5:30pm Vespe |
| 8 8:30am Classic Praise 9:45am LLL 11am Contemporary Worship 6pm Huddle Team Meets | 9 10am Staff Mtg. 6pm Cub Scouts 7pm Bethel Bible | 10 9:15am Ruth Circle 7pm Alzheimer's 7pm Boy Scouts 7pm Esther / Naomi Circle | 11 12:30pm Dorcas Circle 6pm GS Troop #830 7pm Chancel Choir | 12 6:30am Bible Study (Bob Evans) 9:30am Mary Circle 7pm Shepherd Bells | 13 4:15pm Ringers & Singers 8pm Sq. Dancing | 14 8am Bib 10am M 5:30pm Worst 6:30pm Rehec |
| 15 Pentecost 8:30am Classic Praise 9:45am LLL 11am Confirmation | 16 Staff Deadline 10am Staff Mtg. 4:15pm GS Troop #746 7pm Bethel Bible | 17 7pm Council 7pm Alzheimer's 7pm Boy Scouts 7:30pm Ultraya | 18 7pm Chancel Choir | 19 6:30am Bible Study (Bob Evans) 10am Synod Assembly @ Wittenberg 7pm Shepherd Bells | 20 10am Synod Assembly @ Wittenberg 4:15pm Ringers & Singers 6pm TGILLN | 21 8am Bib 10am S @ Wif 5:30pm Vespe |
| 22 Holy Trinity 8:30am Classic Praise 9:45am LLL 11am Contemporary Worship | 23 10am Staff Mtg. 2:45pm Brownie Troop #647 7pm Bethel Bible | 24 7pm Alzheimer's 7pm Boy Scouts | 25 7pm Chancel Choir | 26 6:30am Bible Study (Bob Evans) 9:30am HIS Day 7pm Shepherd Bells | 27 4:15pm Ringers & Singers | 28 8am Bib 5:30pm Vespe |
| 29 8:30am Classic Praise 9:45am LLL 11am Contemporary Worship | 30 Memorial Day Office Closed | 31 10am Staff Mtg. 7pm Alzheimer's 7pm Boy Scouts | | | | |

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Graham Crackers

by **Bea Graham**

Barbara Hobbs, known as Barb, is one of our very active members, who usually sits on the left side, near the back. She was born in Dayton but lived in Cleveland and also lived in Cincinnati for 10 years. Barb has four daughters living in many parts of the U.S. Susan lives in Vermillion, OH; Sandy in St. Petersburg, FL; Lynne in Haymarket, VA (and they still sell hay there); Lisa lives in Columbus, OH; and one stepdaughter, Shari resides in Oakwood. She has six grand-children. Her grandson, Luke is in the Army Reserve. Barb was married to Don for 8½ years. He died in 2003. He was an Electronic Engineering Technician for N.C.R. and W.P.A.F.

Barb's education includes attending the University of Cincinnati, Ohio State, and she received an Associate degree from Sinclair. She was a Legal Secretary at Atty. Milton Strowl's for three years, and a Paralegal for Atty. Jeffrey Taylor for five years, all in Dayton. Barb was a Paralegal for Women's Federal Bank in Cleveland for three years and is now retired. She now sings with the Kettering Sr. Show Choir. Her hobbies include sewing, golfing, walking, and reading, and she has traveled a little.

She joined Good Shepherd in 1966 and has been very active ever since. Barb sings in the choir, plays the bells, delivers flowers to shut-ins, helps serve Communion, is President of Ruth Circle and was Associate President of W.O.C. with Marian Kettering. She also helps with coffee fellowship, taught Sunday School, Vacation Bible School and Catechism. Barb is now in the new Bethel Class and attends the Saturday morning Bible Study. We certainly appreciate all the Barb does for Good Shepherd.

Connie Dishon, who attends Good Shepherd's early service, was born in Covington, KY, moved to the Dayton area in 1989, and now resides in Washington Twp. Connie received her Diploma of Nursing at Bethesda School of Nursing in Cincinnati; her B.S.N. at Xavier University in Cincinnati; graduated from the University of Texas at the Health and Science Center in Houston, and received her M.S. Science of Nursing at the University of Texas. Connie has been employed at the Good Samaritan Hospital for 16 years, where she has been in Education for Nursing since 2001. She was Chairperson for Emergency Association of Nursing for the State of Ohio. Connie is a member of Sigma Theta Tau, the National Honor Society for Nursing and is currently a member of Eastern Star, Belmont Chapter.

Connie joined our church around 1996-97 and is one of our active members. She is on the Alter Guild, serves on the Stewardship Board, and is a Greeter. Her hobbies include walking, reading, cross stitch, gardening, crafts, and golfing.

Connie is a very dedicated nurse and Good Shepherd is especially happy that she has been such a good number. Be sure to greet her Sunday morning.

Handbell News

Good Shepherd's bell choir, "Shepherd Bells", will be ringing again at the **Greater Dayton Handbell Festival**, and you are invited! Approximately 18 choirs from the local area will be joining together to play three pieces. That means for those pieces, you will be hearing a 230-member handbell choir! There will also be ten individual choir performances, which should be a treat. Last year we got to hear the group from Stivers High School that was written up in the Dayton Daily News a few months back. We hope they will be back this year. You don't even have to travel far- the concert will be held at **Christ United Methodist Church**, 3440 Shroyer Road, on **May 1st from 4-5 pm**. So, come and enjoy an hour of beautiful music from area musicians, and cheer on the Shepherd Bells! (We may not get ALL of the notes in on these pieces, but there will be plenty of other choirs who will cover for us, and we'll do our best!!)

Also coming soon: The Raleigh Ringers will be performing a two-hour concert in Greenville, Ohio on Father's Day, Sunday, June 19, at 7:00 pm. This is one of the top handbell choirs in the country. They perform on 6 sets of different kinds of bells, one of them 7 ½ octaves. (For comparison, our Shepherd Bells have usually been ringing 3 octaves this year in church.) The concert will be in the refurbished St. Clair Memorial Hall, so the acoustics will be good to hear this group! Members of our handbell choir are planning on going together to this concert. Tickets are \$15 at the door, and \$12 pre-sale. Look for information in the Sunday bulletin "Staff" if you are interested in joining with us to take advantage of this opportunity!

Bulletin Board

Our first **TGILN** (Thank God It's Ladies Night) was a great success thanks to those who attended:

Felicia Crouch, Maryann Sauer, Pamela Blevins, Paula Bennett, Sandy Mants, Debbie Kempf, Sarah Dittmar, Sharon Hagedorn, with guest Arlon Zobel, Brenda Thieman, with guest Mary Thieman

Devotion was about spiritual journals and how lucky we are to have faith and talents.

Come next time ladies, with hobby in hand, on May 20th anytime from 6pm - 11pm.

WELCA Notes

Ruth Circle will meet Tuesday, May 10 at 9:15 a.m. in the church lounge. Barb Hobbs will provide refreshments. The Bible study will be a group discussion.

Esther-Naomi Circle will meet Tuesday evening, May 10 at 7 p.m. in the church lounge.

Dorcas Circle will meet Wednesday, May 11 at 12:30 p.m. in the church lounge. Phil Glover will provide refreshments. Bible study will be a group discussion.

Mary Circle will meet Thursday, May 12 at 9:30 a.m. in the church lounge. Bible study will be a group discussion format. The Circle members will go out for lunch following the Bible study.

Wednesday, May 18, Good Shepherd will host the monthly *Bingo Party* at Country View Manor. We welcome anyone interested to accompany us to help serve snacks and soft drinks. We will car pool from the church. Please call Evelyn Bergstedt or Kate Steininger if you are willing to help.

Submit STAFF articles to gslchurch@woh.rr.com by the 15th of each month

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
901 E. Stroop Road
Kettering, OH 45429
gslchurch@woh.rr.com
Fax: 299-1170 Ph. 298-0136

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