

Harvest Home September 13th

We will celebrate Harvest Home on Sunday, September 15th. Again this year you are asked to bring an offering of non-perishable food stuffs beginning Sunday August 30. *Fresh produce* can be dropped off on September 11 from 8 am to 10:30 or September 12 (*times to be announced.*) Your gifts will be forwarded to the Whitehall Food Pantry located at

**St. Stephens Episcopal Church
Mechanicsville Road.**

It is a day to celebrate God’s gifts, share from our bounty, and learn from our tradition.

Worship with us on Harvest Home!



SOTHLC Signs of Our Faithfulness

“For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also”

End of Prior Month (as of June 30, 2020)

Monthly Stewardship Income: \$15,069 YTD: \$92,651

Monthly Operating Expenses: \$20,753 YTD: \$100,572

Stewardship Income includes Benevolence Envelopes:

June \$ 715 YTD: \$ 2848 (Budget for 2020—\$13,571) Sent \$3,393

May Electric \$377 YTD: \$ 4,456

† The Rod and the Staff †

A monthly publication of Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church, Whitehall (Egypt), Pennsylvania

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PASTOR'S CORNER **Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,**

September is a month where we begin again some of the learning opportunities at Shepherd of the Hills. The Sunday School year for 2020–2021 will begin on September 13th, we will also begin our Confirmation classes and begin a brand new year of Bible Study sessions. The Word of our Lord is alive and available for all at Shepherd of the Hills. We also have other opportunities to experience the Word of our Lord—each week there is a daily devotion distributed to many members by e-mail. The Bible or the Word of our Lord is important to each one of us as children of God.

Shepherd of the Hills provides many opportunities to experience the Word of the Lord. Come and Hear His Word on a Sunday morning, and on Thursday morning Morning Prayer Service, come and read and discuss His Word in Sunday School and Bible Study. May the Word, the Bible be your favorite book in your life.

In Christ's Love,

Pastor Schlegel

Enclosed in this Newsletter is a letter from my granddaughter, Taylor. Taylor was in a terrible car accident and wants to thank everyone for the cards, prayers, and well wishes.

Thank you,

Pastor Schlegel

Harvest Home that is advertised on your inside cover has been postponed until September 2021 due to the pandemic.

Sunday School **resumes on Sunday** **September 13th at** **8:50 am!**



All individuals are invited to come and learn of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

We have Sunday School classes for all individuals from 3 years old through adults.

Please come and join us as we learn together.

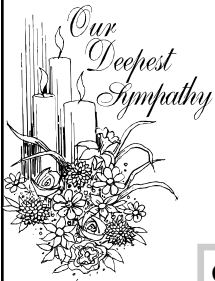
YOUTH MONTH

We are celebrating Youth Month in the month of September. We are rejoicing in our Lord for all the many young people who are a part of our family at Shepherd of the Hills. During the month of September there will be envelopes on the table in the Narthex for our Youth Memorial Fund. This fund sponsors our youth to the National Youth Assembly. Please support our youth at Shepherd of the Hills.



This issue of The Rod and The Staff is sponsored by Paul and Carol Balascki.

This issue of the Rod and The Staff is sponsored in honor of Joe's 79th birthday by Sharon Bodor and Joe Ebner.



I AM THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE

Edna Warmkessel entered into eternal rest on June 4, 2019. We commend Edna into the hands of Almighty God. We offer our sincere sympathy to the family.

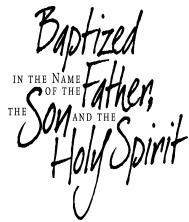
On August 2, **Cain Michael Wescoe** the son of Colin and Chelsea Wescoe was welcomed into the Family of God through the Sacrament of Holy Baptism. Welcome Cain we wish you God's Blessing.

On August 9, **Hudson James Mann** the son of William Lee Mann, Jr. and Savannah Weiss was welcomed into the Family of God through the Sacrament of Holy Baptism. Welcome Hudson, we wish you God's Blessing.

On August 9, **William Lee Mann, Jr.** the son of William Lee Mann and Lori Ann Keeman was welcomed into the Family of God through the Sacrament of Holy Baptism. Welcome William, we wish you God's Blessing.

On August 16, **Lyncoln Michael Kramer**, the son of Gregory Harry Kramer and Brooke Alicia Kramer was welcomed into the Family of God through the Sacrament of Holy Baptism. Welcome, Lyncoln, we wish you God's Blessing.

On August 23, **Kash Coleson Krasenics**, the son of Jacob Adam Krasenics and Nicollette Christina Fragnito was welcomed into the Family of God through the Sacrament of Holy Baptism. Welcome, Kash, we wish you God's Blessing.



Please Keep in Your Thoughts And Prayers:

Louis Albright, Donald Baer, Colleen Baily, Paul Balascki, Bonnie Brown, June Brownlee, Janice Buckwalter, Verna Chandick, John Clark, Gladys Cressman, Karen Culver, Marie Dean, Jeffrey Deutsch, Sylvia Diaz, Ed Didra, Nancy Dietz, Brian Dilcher, Karen Donchez, Beth Dymond, Joe Ebner, Mary Beth Fatzinger, Beverly Fekula, Joseph and Gloria Fischl, Donald Fister, Art Frey, Kay Fronheiser, Glenna Fonzone, Joy Fullmer, Raymond Gangaway, Jeff Gilbert, Barbara Greensweig, Evelyn Groller, Salvatore Guastella, Mike Haberern, Carey Hacker, Phyllis Handwerk, Ethel Harakal, Mae Hart, Joseph Herman, Beth Hickman, Jim Honochick, Ann Hricinak, John Huyter, Audrey Keeney, Dorothy Karpyn, Audrey Keeney, Dwayne Kern, Patrice Kohan, Carol Kuhns, Carol Kuhns, Marge Kunkle, Scott Lazarus, David Lewis, Olivia Lesinski, Wally Loewer, Pat Lussy, Leatrice Masonheimer, Nancy Michener, Ethel Mertz, Debbie Messinger, Terry Messinger, Nancy Michener, Carole Mickley, Doris Miller, Lucy Miller, Rhynier Minnich, Christopher Moakley, Taylor Moyer, Russell Myers, Daniel Nace, Cathy Nelcoski, Mildred Parker, Jason Plotsko, Leroy Rabenold, Jacob Ramos, Robin Reinisch, Mark and Doris Reitz, Dee Renner, Tom Ritter, Susan Robinson, Steve Roman, Jean Roth, Mary Royer, Michael Saraceno, Fran Schimeneck, Pamela Schussler, Carl Schrader, Luther Schweitzer, Helen Sefcik, June Sell, Wayne Serfass, Sean Skelonis, Helen Sefcik, Grace Siegel, Grace Smith, Dennis Stangle, Bruce Steigerwalt, Alan Steckel, Ronald Sterling, Renee Strauss, Yolanda, Sunderer, Aidan Tacker, Ray Tremba, Lois Von Funk, Bruce Weaver, Marion Weida, Ruth Weidner, Jennifer Wentling, John Woodling, Daniel Yakubecek, *The Families of* John Zolomij Zolahmidge, Donna Schneider, Edna Warmkessel, Frances Gaylord, Michael Wagner, Diane Buckley, Katie Golda and Judy Schwenter



Thank you to our sponsors of the Times News SOTHLC ad

September— To the Glory of God by Carol and Paul Balascki

October— In memory of our mom, Helen Stevens. It has been 20 years this month that you went home. Love and miss you, Joy and Janis.

HAVE YOU NOTICED THE ENVELOPES IN THE NARTHEX FOR SPONSORING:

- ◆ ALTAR FLOWERS, COMMUNION WINE, BULLETINS
- ◆ TIMES NEWS SPONSORSHIP and NEWSLETTER
- ◆ MEMORIAL DONATIONS?

The envelopes help to provide the church office with the information necessary to properly credit your giving statement We hope having them available will be a convenience for you as well.

Please be aware that when you sponsor altar flowers you should arrange to pick them up after the 10:15 service. They will be distributed to the sick or shut-ins if left until Monday at noon.



Thank you to everyone who came out to our car wash on August 15. We washed 48 cars and made a profit of \$711. Your generosity and donations made this event a huge success for us. Thank you!!!

Hoagies will go on sale on September 13. Cost is \$5 for a hoagie and \$3.50 for a sandwich. Delivery will be October 4 after each service.

Roast Beef Lunch-To-Go will be on Sunday, October 18. Lunch will include roast beef, mashed potatoes, vegetables, gravy, roll and butter, dessert and drink all packaged safely in to-go trays. Pick up your meal between 11 am and 1 pm. Cost will be \$10. Tickets will go on sale September 27.

Nut rolls will go on sale October 18 with a delivery date of November 15. Cost is \$16/roll. Flavors are nut, poppy seed, lekvar, apricot, seedless raspberry, coconut, pumpkin and a new flavor, APPLE! Samples will be available soon.

Our gift card sale will begin October 4. Order forms will be available on the table by the stairs. They should be filled out and turned in with a check by November 29. Or you may go to www.shopwithscrip.com, log in and use the code **L9A248FA33862** to order online. All orders must be received by November 29 and they will be ready for pickup by Dec 6.

There will be a **youth group meeting** on September 20 at 6 pm in Fellowship Hall. Any youth in their second year of confirmation or older should attend. Parents should plan to attend for the first hour.

The youth group's clothing drive has been TEMPORARILY SUSPENDED! Please do not bring in any more bags of clothes until further notice. Due to the pandemic, the company is temporarily not accepting items. We are hopeful that this will be resolved by May, but until we hear from the company, we are suspending the drive. To order hoagies, nut rolls, and/or tickets for the Roast Beef Lunch To-Go or to have a gift card order form mailed to you, call Lisa at 610-262-4053. Concerned about COVID? We will work with you to make sure you can pick up these items safely.

Please help the Youth Group help others!

Parkland Cares Food Pantry has asked the youth group and the congregation to donate food by November 1 for their special holiday food bags that will be distributed for Thanksgiving and Christmas. Items needed are:

Boxed Stuffing

Instant Mashed Potatoes

Canned Cranberries

Turkey Gravy

Canned Green Beans

Canned Corn

Every year, the youth group fills shoeboxes to send to **Operation Christmas Child**. Items are collected throughout the year, but mostly through our Vacation Bible School program. With the cancellation of VBS this summer, we are short some items for the boxes. All donations should be dropped off by November 1. Items needed are:

Personal care items such as toothbrushes, bar soap and children's bandages,

School supplies such as pencils, pens, markers, crayons, notebooks, tape and glue sticks,

Craft supplies such as coloring books, make it yourself crafts, playdough, puzzles, chalk and stickers,

Clothing and accessories such as socks, flip flops, hats and gloves, and hair accessories,

Small toys such as stuffed animals, small balls, toy cars, plastic dinosaurs, frisbees, and yo-yos.

NO liquids, war-related items such as toy guns, knives, or military figures or breakable items.

Please make sure everything is new or like new and will fit in a shoebox.

In Search Of: The youth group was given a coin collection by the family of a deceased congregation member. The collection has been inventoried. Now we are looking for someone with some coin collecting knowledge to help us decide how, where and when to sell. If you can help us or can recommend someone to help, please call or talk to Lisa (610-262-4053). Thanks.



Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church gratefully acknowledges memorial donations given in memory of **Edna Warmkessel** from Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Fischl and Lucy Messinger.

Shepherd of the Hills participates in the Paycheck Protection Program

Shepherd of the Hills recently applied for, and received, a loan under the Paycheck Protection Program. This government program is available to small businesses and nonprofit organizations to help pay for salaries, utilities and other expenses during the pandemic. Shepherd of the Hills has Received approximately \$29,000 from this program.

Since Shepherd of the Hills has kept all of our staff employed during this pandemic our loan will become a grant and will not have to be paid back.

The congregation has been very generous with their contributions during this difficult time, however we still find ourselves with a deficit of about \$15,000 compared to our expenses to date. This grant will be very helpful enabling us to continue our Mission here at Shepherd of the Hills.

If you have any questions about this program please feel free to speak to me or any Council member regarding this grant.

Joel Zimmerman - Congregation Council President



... to everyone who helped keep the church grounds, flower beds, walkways and perimeters free from weeds this summer. We so appreciate your efforts. The grounds have looked beautiful.

We received notes . . .

Thank you so much for keeping me in your thought and prayers. It really does help. I just passed the three-year survival after diagnosis and that is very rare for stage 4 pancreatic cancer. Thank you'
Renee Strauss

Dear Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church,
Thank you for your gift(s) given to your synod, received by ELCA World Hunger in June 2020 in the amount of \$1,350.

Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. (Romans 5:1-2)

As a church, we believe that God's grace is freely given to us. This brings us peace and hope. It makes a difference in our lives. Through your gifts to ELCA World Hunger, you are sharing this amazing grace with others. You are helping people around the world feel the transformational power of God's love.

Your generosity is getting at the root causes of hunger and poverty in over 60 countries including the United States. It is providing access to clean water, health care, agriculture, livestock, education, and peace and justice. Through your gifts, you are joining with the whole church as we work toward a just world where all are fed.

Thank you for your gracious gifts. The glory of God is shining through you.

In Christ,

The Rev. Robin Brown
Mission funding director, Congregations.

**COME AND JOIN US!
LEARN THE WORD OF THE LORD**

Come and join us in September as we restart our Bible Study programs.

Monday, September 21 at 9:30 AM

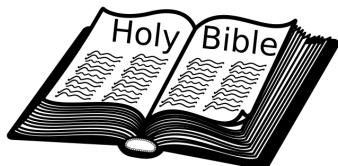
Wednesday, September 9 at 10:00 AM

Place the dates in your calendar and come and join us.



Several Ways to God's Word

We are offering several ways to God's Word. Each day at 7 PM there is a Daily Reflection on the Church's Facebook page which includes God's Word, a reflection, and ending in prayer. We also have a Daily devotion via email, which is sent out almost every day. If you would like to receive the email, please contact the church office.



will take place on Reformation.

On October 25, we will celebrate with three young men as they affirm their Baptismal Vows and are Confirmed.

Please remember to wear red on this joyful occasion.



COMMITTEE PAGE

THE SERVICE TEAM

Reach out to those in need . . . We are presently collecting coffee (Decaf and Regular) - *no Keurig Cups*. We are also collecting *pancake mix and pasta—no spaghetti* and cereal for the Whitehall Food Bank as well as large bottles of juice. We are also collecting soap and shampoo for the ministries of Pathways and Daybreak. Please reach out in God’s love to those in need. *God’s Work, Our Hands*. Please place your donations on the table in the narthex.

THE WITNESS COMMITTEE Take A Look At Our Revamped Web Page.

We have our own web page. You can find out information about our church at www.sothlc-egypt.org.

We also have e-mail. Our address is pastor@sothlc-egypt.org. We still have daily devotions which are sent out by e-mail. If you would like to receive the devotions, please e-mail us and we will add you to the list. Also each day at 7 PM you will find a Daily Reflection on the church’s Facebook page. It includes God’s Word, a reflection, and ending in prayer.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE Assistance Fund

Our Church has an Assistance Fund to help those in our congregation who need assistance. There are envelopes in the Narthex to give toward those in our church family. As we end the Summer and begin the Fall and Winter, the need is more prevalent. Please give so those in need in our Church Family may not go hungry or cold.

THE WORSHIP COMMITTEE MORNING PRAYER: Each Thursday morning at 9:30 AM we are meeting in the church sanctuary to pray to the Lord. Come and join us as we gather together in the House of our Lord.

THRIVENT GRANTS

Each month Shepherd of the Hills receives a deposit into its Operating Account on behalf of the Thrivent Financial for Lutherans Thrivent Choice program. By directing designated Choice Dollars through Thrivent Choice, eligible members recommend where Thrivent Financial distributes some of its charitable outreach grant dollars.



Summer is over, and so as the kids go back to school it is time to join up for CHOIR! When the pandemic is contained, we will sing at the 10:15 worship each Sunday.

CONGREGATION COUNCIL

- Joel Zimmerman, President
- Karen Haberern, Vice President
- Cheryl Reisinger, Secretary
- Colleen Ehst, Treasurer
- Todd Sassaman, Financial Secretary
- Scarlet Randolph, Witness
- Randy Marushak Support
- Michael Saraceno, Service
- Drew Null, Youth
- Denise Smith, Worship
- Lisa Kroboth, Learning
- Aidan Ehst, Youth Representative
- Rev. James W. Schlegel, Pastor



On July 19 we welcomed **Colin and Chelsea Wescoe** into our Church Family.

On August 9, we welcomed **William Lee Mann, Jr.** into our Church Family.

On August 30, we welcomed **Carl France** into our Church Family.

We wish God’s gracious blessings on each of these new members.

**Emergency Phone Numbers:
Print Out And Keep It With Your Bible.
.....Use In Case Of Emergency!**

When in sorrow.....call John 14
When men fail you.....call Psalm 27
When you have sinned.....call Psalm 51
When you worry.....call Matthew 6:19-34
When you are in danger.....call Psalm 91
When God seems far away.....call Psalm 139
When your faith needs stirring.....call Hebrews 11
When you are lonely and fearful.....call Psalm 23
When you grow bitter and critical.....call I Corinthians 13
When you feel down and out.....call Romans 8:31
When you want peace and rest.....call Matthew 11:25-30
When the world seems bigger than God.....call Psalm 90
When you want Christian assurance.....call Romans 8:1-30
When you leave home for labor or travel.....call Psalm 121
When your prayers grow narrow or selfish.....call Psalm 67
When you want courage for a task.....call Joshua 1
When you think of investments and returns.....call Mark 10
If you are depressed.....call Psalm 27
If your pocketbook is empty.....call Psalm 37
If you are losing confidence in people.....call I Corinthians 13
If people seem unkind.....call John 15
If discouraged about your work.....call Psalm 126
If self pride/greatness takes hold.....call Psalm 19
If you want to be fruitful.....call John 15
For understanding of Christianity....call II Corinthians 5:15-19
For a great invention/opportunity.....call Isaiah 55
For how to get along with fellow men.....call Romans 12
For Paul's secret to happiness.....call Colossians 3:12-17

-Alternate Numbers:

For dealing with fear.....call Psalm 34
For security.....call Psalm 121:3
For assurance.....call Mark 8:35
For reassurance.....call Psalm 145:18

PLEASE NOTE: Emergency numbers may be dialed direct. No operator assistance is necessary.

**Youth Group
Schedule
September 2019 through
January 2020**

SEPTEMBER 8, SUNDAY	MEETING WITH LUNCH
SEPTEMBER 15, SUNDAY	HOAGIE SALE BEGINS
SEPTEMBER 21, SATURDAY	MIRACLE LEAGUE, SCHNECKSVILLE, LUNCH WILL BE INCLUDED
SEPTEMBER 29, SUNDAY	HOAGIE ORDES AND MONEY DUE
OCTOBER 6, SUNDAY	HOAGIE DELIVERY, AFTER SERVICES; GIFT CARD FUNDRAISER BEGINS
OCTOBER 12, SATURDAY	8 AM—12 PM; VOLUNTEER AT LILY’S LOOP, VELODROME, BREINIGSVILLE.
OCTOBER 13, SUNDAY	NUT ROLL SALE BEGINS
OCTOBER 20, SUNDAY	11:30 AM—LUNCH AND ACTVITY
OCTOBER 27, SUNDAY	NUT ROLL ORDERS AND MONEY DUE
NOVEMBER 3, SUNDAY	6-8 PM, MEETING TO PACK SHOEBOXES FOR OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD; FELLOWSHIP HALL, SNACKS AND GAMES AFTER BOXES ARE FILLED
NOVEMBER 10, SUNDAY	NUT ROLL DELIVERY, AFTER SERVICES
NOVEMBER 17, SUNDAY	ROAST BEEF LUNCH, SET UP DURING CONFIRMATION HOUR, MEAL BEGINS AT 11:30, ENDS AT 1 PM
DECEMBER 1, SUNDAY	GIFT CARD FUNDRAISER ENDS, ALL ORDERS AND MONEY DUE
DECEMBER 8, SUNDAY	MEETING, 6-8 PM, GIFT CARD DELIVERY, AFTER SERVICES
DECEMBER 15, SUNDAY	TREE DECORATING AND CAROLING, IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING 10:15 SERVICE
JANUARY 19, SUNDAY	REHEARSAL ATER 10:15 SERVICE, LUNCH WILL BE SERVED
JANUARY 26, SUNDAY	YOUTH SUNDAY, BOTH SERVICES, BREAKFAST SERVED

