

SHELLS MESSENGER

Shells Evangelical Lutheran Church

September 2023

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.

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I look forward to what God has in store for us this Fall at Shells Church! We will join with St. John Hoernerstown for another picnic in their pavilion on September 9, bless the backpacks and resume Sunday School (as well as hear from a missionary in Bangladesh) on September 10, and resume Grief Support and Bible Study on September 11. We will gather each Sunday at 9am to offer our thanks and praise to God for the gift of his only Son, as well as on September 29 to celebrate the Feast of St. Michael and All Angels - where we will also bless first responders. Looking forward to October, we will resume Children in Worship and have our annual Welcome Back Brunch on October 1, our annual St. Francis Pet Blessing on October 4, and then head to the National Cathedral in Washington DC on October 7 for the National Acolyte Festival. We will also welcome back Chaplain Ben Erzkus (Chaplain at Lutheran Campus Ministry at WVU) who will be with us for the St. Luke healing liturgy on October 18 as well as preach on Sunday, October 22. As I said, I look forward to what God has in store for us this Fall at Shells Church. I pray that the Holy Spirit guides us all to make our church family and faith life a priority this Fall as we gather to worship, learn, serve, and fellowship together.

Your servant in Christ,

Fr. Barnes

DATES TO REMEMBER:

September 9, 2023 at 4pm - Church Picnic at St. John.

September 10, 2023 - Blessing of the Backpacks with Sunday School and Confirmation classes resuming in the Education Building at 9am. The Adult Forum will resume at 10:45am in the Social Hall with a missionary presentation on the Church in Bangladesh.

September 11, 2023 - Grief Support resumes at 2pm at Shells and Bible Study resumes at 6:30pm at Shells.

September 14 from 7-8:15pm - Senior Choir rehearsals resume.

September 29 at 7pm - Feast of St. Michael and All Angels at Shells, blessing of First Responders.

October 1, 2023 we will have our first *Children in Worship* and a Welcome Back Brunch.

October 4, 2023 at 6:60pm - St. Francis Pet Blessing at Shells Pavilion.

October 7, 2023 we will be taking a trip to the National Cathedral in Washington DC for the National Acolyte Festival. Everyone is welcome to attend.

October 14, 2023 at 4pm - Chalk Art at St. John

October 29 from 3-6pm - Fall Festival @ Shells

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Lebanon Valley College Organ Guild (*in collaboration with the Harrisburg Chapter of the AGO*) will be hosting a Pedals, Pipes, and Pizza event on Saturday, September 9, 2023, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. This is for young folks to get accustomed to the pipe organ and its use in worship and concert settings. If you and your children are interested in attending this free event, please reach out to Fr. Barnes.

Annual St. John Church Picnic Saturday, September 9 at 4 pm. Please join us for fellowship, fun, games, prizes and good food at St John for our annual picnic. Hotdogs and hamburgers, drinks and paper products will be provided, all we ask is for you to bring a side dish or dessert to share. Please bring your own chairs also if you can. Please sign up in the narthex so we can prepare properly. Looking forward to seeing everyone!

We are again collecting items for our teachers classrooms. Tissues, hand sanitizer, disinfectant wipes, EXPO markers, pencils, pens, crayons and markers are always needed. We appreciate your help in supporting the important people in our children's lives. We will bless these items on September 10.

Please bring your backpacks, laptop cases, and school bags as we bless all students and teachers on September 10, 2023. We will also welcome Missionary Richard Sarker to the Adult Forum to make a presentation on the Church in Bangladesh after Worship.

Grief Support resumes on September 11 at 2pm in Shells' Social Hall. Please contact Fr. Barnes to let him know if you are participating.

Lower Dauphin band is having a designer bag bingo on September 24th at the Hummelstown Fire Company. Tickets can be purchased through the band Facebook page or at www.ticketstrip.com/LDBandPurseBingo

Join us on September 29 at 7pm to celebrate the Feast of St. Michael and All Angels at Shells. We will offer a blessing for First Responders.

Welcome Back Brunch will be held on October 1 after Worship. There is a sign up sheet in the Narthex for items to bring.

Please sign up in the Narthex or by connecting the Church Office for the National Acolyte Festival on October 7.

The Adult Sunday School class will be starting early on the Race Track Project since our goal is provide 150 toiletry bags for 2023. (100 men & 50 women) We will now be collecting articles throughout the year. August & September will be soap and lip gloss. October will tissues and combs. Thank you all for your kind support of this cause.

The Girl Scouts are continuing their sneaker collection for the next few months. We are collecting any size or condition of sneakers. There is a box in the Narthex. Thank you, Anna and Nora.

SHELLS MUSIC MINISTRY

Welcome to the 2023-2024 choir season at Shells! Our music ministry is deeply rooted in Holy Scripture, supporting and enhancing the congregation in worship. Our choir season runs from September to May, offering many opportunities to participate in our shared music ministry.

The **Senior Choir** rehearses weekly on **Thursday evenings** from **7:00 to 8:15 p.m.** beginning this year on **Thursday, September 14**. Our Senior Choir leads Sunday worship, enhancing the liturgy with choral offerings, psalms, hymnody and gospel acclamations. We strive to challenge ourselves with a wide selection of choral repertoire for our lectionary-based worship. We invite any Senior High youth through adults to join Senior Choir!

Children In Worship is our Sunday School music program for **preschool through 6th grade**, providing opportunities for our children to share in worship in many ways. The children learn music for *Shells Bells*, our children's bell choir, scripture readings with rhythm instruments and new songs for worship. *Shells Bells* play and learn music as part of the Sunday school opening each week, beginning at 9am.

On *Children in Worship* Sundays our Sunday School children, confirmands and youth also assist with worship by serving as acolytes, torch bearers, book bearer, crucifer, reading the lessons, leading the Prayers of Intercession, and assisting ushers. The children participate in worship the **first Sunday** of each **month**, October through May, beginning **October 1**.

We're excited to begin another season of **Children and Youth Handchime Choir** for children entering 2nd grade through senior high youth! The Handchime Choir rehearses the **first and third Sunday** of each month from **10:30 – 11:00 a.m.**, starting **September 17**. Our ringers work on ringing techniques, recognizing notes and learning music for worship. Please join us to discover Handchimes!

Our youth also have the opportunity to share in our music ministry with seasonal choir, ensembles, solos, keyboard and instrumental music scheduled during the choir year. Please let me know if you play an instrument in band or orchestra.

An invitation to share in our music ministry is extended to all! We hope the opportunity to be a part of our music ministry at Shells brings our members joy and spiritual uplifting, as we bring joy to others with our musical offerings, while giving glory to God. We are grateful for those who are able to share this gift with others.

Please don't hesitate to call, text or email me if you have any questions: cell phone (717) 991-8862; home phone (717) 469-0127; or email at scdbjd@aol.com.

With joyful songs and praise,
Barbara Dupler
Director of Music

*Take my life, that I may be consecrated, Lord, to thee;
Take my moments and my days;
Let them flow in ceaseless praise.
Take my voice and let me sing always, only, for my King,
Take my lips and let them be
filled with messages from thee.*

Take My Life, That I May Be - ELW 685

BAPTISMAL ANNIVERSARIES – SEPTEMBER

Steve Espenshade, Karlene Jaggan, Matthew Terry, Diane Elliott, Sherry Ulsh, Justine Wiltraut, Grant Kauffman, Gracelyn Hilbert, Lucas Terry, Jeff Buse, Erik Espenshade, Sheryl Rozman, Marilee Hrivnak

God will never forget that you are his child.

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

9/1	Kiera Karijomenggolo	9/11	Lauren O'Brien
	Mary Eileen Shellenberger	9/13	Ellie Frye
9/2	Jeff Buse	9/14	Azyel Jaggan
9/4	Shirley Huber	9/15	Dan Boyer
	Rodney Pepper		Craig Espenshade
	Ryan Jaggan	9/17	Troy Wiltraut
9/6	Brandon Suhr	9/22	Katherine Shellenberger
9/8	Laura Molitoris	9/29	Diana Budd
9/10	Don Whitehaus		Anna Holler

In an effort to save cost for offering envelopes, the Finance and Stewardship Ministry decided to exclude all extra envelopes in packets for special liturgies or funds. We now will have envelopes made in-house and each month of the year will support a different aspect of the congregation's total ministry. Here is the schedule for 2023:

August 2023 - Love of Family Fund
 September 2023 - Lutheran Disaster Response
 October 2023 - Lutheran Campus Ministry at WVU
 November 2023 - Local Food Pantry
 December 2023 - ELCA Good Gifts

STEWARDSHIP/GIVING *(July 31, 2023)*

2023 Approved Budget \$272,500

Income: \$147,309.72

Expenses: \$147,264.03

Love of Family Contributions: \$45

Local Food Pantry Contributions: \$3,182.90

Capital Improvement Contributions: \$13,875

Abiding Memorial Fund: \$1,425

Prayer List: Ed Fake, Mim Fake, Al Germann, Angie Gonzales, Alfred Howard, Doug Howard, Jr., Nancy Iachini, Keira Karijomenggolo, Lincoln Leese, Lisa Lugovich, Kevin O'Brien, Iva Rodemaker, Lucas Smith, Larry Suhr, Bev Ulsh, Jack Ulsh, Gen Whitehaus, Our Shells Family Shut-ins, Our Law Enforcement Officers and Service Women & Men, especially Christ Espenshade, Nikolas Jaggan, James Hess, Keegan Neiswender, Blake O'Brien, Michael Knaub and Chris O'Brien, and our Learning ministry.

Those who have died:

Those in the Shells Church Catechumenate Process (please pray for the formation of those preparing for full Confirmed/Voting membership on this congregation: Emily Dupler, Jordan Frye, Gabe Gonzales, Jacob Mende, Mary Shellenberger, Anna Holler.

Family & Friends: Sandy Mort Backauskas, Fern Baker, Saadia Baker, Nancy Balmer, Bill Birtle, Tom Boblitz, Dawn Brink, Donald Brink, Anna Buck, Owen Burns, Cory Cerperich, Verna Ebersole, Craig Feaster, Mary Feaster, Kathy Fouse, Michael Gelehorte, Anne Gordon, Rob Herman, Michael Hudak, Lydia Joy Konisiewicz, Lee Lippi, Eileen Longreen, Paul Longreen, Chris Kelly, Dan Martin, Barb Morrow, Amanda Peck, Lisa Pesta, Edgar Plouse, Tony Prisco, Michael Riley, Ken Rebuck, Molly Reinhart, June Rohrbach, Donald Romberger, Yvonne Rosenberger, Ryan, Suzanne Shaeffer, Kathy Spangler, Jay Stahl, Matt Stayton, Steve Tentylo, Kyle Wentz, Carol Wilson, Jennie Womack and Ezra Zook.

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

THANK YOU, SHELLS CHURCH

Dear Shells Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your recent gift to Lutheran World Relief. Your love is being put to work caring for families in need around the world. I'm grateful for your partnership on this ministry.

*With gratitude,
Emma Wagner*

Shells Church Family,

Thank you very much for the thoughtful cards & letters over the past 9 months! Knowing I have such a supportive, loving, and caring family as Shells brightens my days and lightens my heart when the load gets heavy. I look forward to returning stateside soon & seeing everyone. God Bless you all!

*Sincerely,
Major Matthew Gordon
28th Infantry Division, Qatar*

PS – Give Carol & Tom extra love for me xoxo

	Assistant	Lector	Acolyte	Communion Assistant	Greeter /Usher	Altar Care
September 3 Ordinary Time 22	Karlene Jaggan	Lisa Lugovich	Douglass Howard	Don Whitehaus	Tom & Sandy Mader	Steve, Kathy & Bethany Espenshade
September 10 Ordinary Time 23	Karen Gussler	Diana Budd	ONE VOLUNTEER NEEDED	Dick Wenner	Joe & Diana Budd	Sandy Mader & Katie Shellenberger
September 17 Ordinary Time 24	Gen Whitehaus	Karen Gussler	ONE VOLUNTEER NEEDED	Don Whitehaus	Bert & Karen Gussler	Diana Budd & Carol Gordon
September 24 Ordinary Time 25	Raelene Smith	Nadine Espenshade	ONE VOLUNTEER NEEDED	Louise Murphy	Rich & Nadine Espenshade	Raelene Smith & Janet Klos
September 29 St. Michael & All Angels @ 7pm	Karlene Jaggan	Karen Gussler	THREE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED	Carol Gordon	Rick & Linda Blair	N/A
October 1 Ordinary Time 26	Karen Gussler	Anna Iachini	THREE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED	Carol Gordon	Tom & Carol Gordon	Louise Murphy, Karen Gussler & Bobbie Boyer
October 4 St. Francis @ 6:30pm	N/A	VOLUNTEER NEEDED	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
October 8 Ordinary Time 27	Karlene Jaggan	Brenda Frye	ONE VOLUNTEER NEEDED	Don Whitehaus	Rick & Linda Blair	Diane Suhr & Terry Kamerzel
October 15 Ordinary Time 28	Sherry Ulsh	Steve Espenshade	ONE VOLUNTEER NEEDED	Dick Wenner	Tom & Sandy Mader	Steve & Kathy & Bethany Espenshade
October 18 St. Luke @ 6:30pm	Karen Gussler	Nadine Espenshade	THREE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED	Don Whitehaus	Rich & Nadine Espenshade	N/A
October 22 Ordinary Time 29	Gen Whitehaus	Erica Strang	ONE VOLUNTEER NEEDED	Don Whitehaus	Joe & Diana Budd	Sandy Mader & Katie Shellenberger
October 29 Reformation Sunday	Ralene Smith	Ed Fake	THREE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED	Louise Murphy	Bert & Karen Gussler	Diana Budd & Carol Gordon

September 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 Ordinary Time 22	4	5 Central PA Food Bank 7pm Worship, Music, and Altar Meeting	6	7	8	9 9am-12:30pm Pedals, Pipes, and Pizza Noon Memorial Mass for Jane Helmers 4pm Picnic @ St. John
10 Ordinary Time 23 Blessing of Backpacks 9am Sunday School & Confirmation 10:45 Adult Forum	11 2pm Grief Support @ Shells 6:30pm Bible Study @ Shells	12 6:30pm Parish Council Meeting	13	14 7-8:15pm Choir Rehearsal	15	16
17 Ordinary Time 23 9am Sunday School & Confirmation 10:30-11am Hand Chime Choir 10:45am Adult Forum	18 5:30pm Race Track Meal 6:30pm Bible Study @ St. John <i>Fr. Barnes Continuing Education</i>	19 <i>Fr. Barnes Continuing Education</i>	20 Food Pantry <i>Fr. Barnes Continuing Education</i>	21 Food Pantry 7-8:15pm Choir Rehearsal <i>Fr. Barnes Continuing Education</i>	22 Food Pantry <i>Fr. Barnes Continuing Education</i>	23 9-11am Cub Scout Recruitment
24 Ordinary Time 24 9am Sunday School & Confirmation 10:45am Adult Forum 10:30am Youth Group	25 2pm Grief Support @ Shells 6:30pm Bible Study @ Shells	26	27	28 7-8:15pm Choir Rehearsal	29 7pm Feast of St. Michael & All Angels @ Shells	30

We are still in need of children/youth to sign up to serve as acolytes for Sunday and weekday liturgies as well as lectors, prayers/intercessors, and greeters/ushers on Children in Worship Sundays (First Sunday of the Month). Please check your calendars and sign up ASAP! Here is the direct link to the page for you to sign up: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c094ea5a82da6f8c70-church#/> If you would prefer to have the Church Office schedule your child/youth as we have in the past, please reach out and we can continue that practice using this format as well as the Newsletter to notify you.

**SHELLS EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH**

287 Shells Church Rd.

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

Email: scdbjd@aol.com

Theresa Reidmiller, Administrative Assistant

Email: shellsadmin@shellschurch.org

Charles Schreiber, Treasurer

Email: charlieschreiber@embarqmail.com

Council Members:

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