

SHELLS MESSENGER

Shells Evangelical Lutheran Church

July 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.

SAVE THE DATES:

July 4 @10am - Independence Day Eucharist at St. John Episcopal Church York, PA

July 6-10: Vacation Bible School

July 28 @ 2pm - First Holy Communion Class

August 4 @ 2pm - First Holy Communion Class

August 5 from 6-8pm - National Night Out

August 9 @ 6:30pm - Mini golf and ice cream at Challenge Golf in Hummelstown

August 11 @ 2pm - First Holy Communion Class

August 15 at 7pm – Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary (*Celebration of First Holy Communion*)

August 17 @ 4pm – 200th Anniversary Vespers with Former Pastors (*Dinner to follow*)

September 7 – Welcome Back Sunday/Brunch

September 14 @ 5pm – Hog Maw Dinner at St. John Hoernerstown

September 20 from 11am-3:30pm – East Hanover Park Day

September 21 from 4-6pm: 200th Anniversary Hymn Sing and Pie Social

September 26-28: Women's Retreat at Gretna Glen

September 29 @ 7pm - Feast of St. Michael and All Angels (*Blessing of First Responders*)

October 4 @ 6:30pm – Feast of St. Francis (*Blessing of the Animals*)

October 11 - National Acolyte Festival in Washington DC

October 18 at 7pm – Feast of St. Luke with Healing Liturgy

October 26 from 5-8pm – Annual Fall Festival

November 11 @ 6:30pm - Feast of St. Martin of Tours (*Blessing of Veterans*)

Celebrating **200** JOIN US FOR OUR BICENTENNIAL EVENTS IN 2025

Sunday, MAY 18

11:00am

**Cedar Grove, Grantville
 LUNCH WITH THE
 BISHOP**

Join us for a festive lunch with Rev. James S. Dunlop, Bishop of the Lower Susquehanna Synod.

Wednesday, MAY 28

6:30pm

**Church
 VESPERS & DESSERT**

Sunday, JUNE 8

1:00-4:00pm

**Church
 OPEN HOUSE**
 The community is invited for Church and Cemetery Tours, demonstrations, music, food and Fun!

Sun.-Thu. JULY 6-10

5:00-8:15pm

Church & Grounds

**VACATION
 BIBLE SCHOOL**

5 nights of fun, food, activities and learning for kids (age 3 thru grade 5). Special celebration Thursday night!

Sunday, AUGUST 17

4:00-6:00pm

**Church
 VESPERS w/Previous
 Pastors & DINNER**

Sun., SEPTEMBER 21

4:00-6:00pm

**Cedar Grove, Grantville
 HYMN SING & PIES**
 Closing event with your favorite hymns and pies!

**287 SHELLS CHURCH ROAD
 GRANTVILLE, PA 17028**

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The 2025 Altar Flower chart is in the Narthex. The following dates are still available: July 27 and August 31.

The racetrack project will be collecting items each month this year. 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 your help and continued support of this worthy cause.

This month's special offering will go to benefit ELCA World Hunger. Please pick up an envelope in the narthex.

The Central PA Food Bank has 10 volunteer spots open on 07/01/2025. Please use this link to register: https://volunteer.centralpafoodbank.org/registrations/sDdPpwZvDP/claim_spot.

Please contact the Church Office to sign your child up for First Holy Communion Classes (Schedule on page 1 of the newsletter). This three-part class is open to all children, even if they are already receiving the Sacrament.

You are cordially invited to kick off your Independence Day with a 10am Liturgy of Holy Eucharist Rite II at St. John Episcopal Church (140 N Beaver St, York, PA 17401). Father Barnes will be the celebrant/homilist and there will be a short patriotic concert performed by First Capital Brass after the liturgy. All are invited to ring the York Liberty Bell as part of the celebration.

National Night Out: East Hanover Township will be hosting the event this year, which is Tuesday, August 5th from 6-8pm at the Community Park located at 8848 Jonestown Road, Grantville. Please consider making individually wrapped baked goods or volunteering to manage our booth.

Congratulations to Colton O'Brien on his graduation from Lower Dauphin High School. He will be continuing his education at WyoTech in Laramie, Wyoming for diesel technology. Colton is the son of Cory O'Brien and the grandson of Kevin & Erna O'Brien.

STEWARDSHIP/GIVING (*May 31, 2025*)

2025 Approved Budget \$295,815

General Fund Income: \$106,372.87
General Fund Expenses: \$137,659.12

Special Funds YTD Contributions

Grantville Food Pantry: \$3,506.74
Capital Improvement Fund: \$2,310
Adult Forum: \$479
ELCA World Hunger: \$260
Lutheran Campus Ministry: \$900
Lutheran Disaster Response: \$170
Love of Family: \$720
Abiding Memorial Fund: \$50,320.00

Total Fund Balances (Total: \$378,591.50)

General Operating Fund: \$58,746.96
Abiding Memorial Fund: \$87,578.41
Adult Forum Fund: \$916.00
Youth Group Fund: \$6,050.34

Love of Family Fund: \$16,258.79
Capital Improvement Fund: \$201,041.00
Higher Education Fund: \$8,000.00

SHELLS MUSIC MINISTRY

How Great Thou Art

*“O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder consider all the works thy hand hath made,
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder, thy pow’r throughout the universe displayed.
Then sings my soul, my Savior God to thee, how great thou art! How great thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God to thee, how great thou art! How great thou art!”*
“O Store Gud”

Text: Carl S. Boberg, 1859-1940; tr. And adapt. Stuart K. Hine, 1899-1989

During the summer of 1885 Carl G. Boberg was returning home from a meeting in Krönobäck, Sweden. In response to the beauty of nature around him and the ringing of church bells, he wrote “O Store Gud.” It was published in the March 13, 1886, issue of *Mönsterås Tidningen* and with the tune in the April 16, 1891 issue of the weekly *Sanningsvitnet*. (From 1890 to 1916 Boberg edited the *Sanningsvitnet* (“Witness of the Truth”) a publication of the Missionary Society of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Sweden.)

A German translation in 1907, “Wie gross du bist” by Manfred von Glehn (1867-1924) popularized the hymn in Germany. Two decades later, a Russian translation from the German was made by I.S. Prokhanoff (1869-1933). Baptists in Poland published it in *Kimvali*, 1927. Stuart K. Hine, working as a Methodist missionary in the Ukraine, learned of the Russian version without knowing of the original Swedish. During a thunderstorm several years later, in the 1930s, when he was a missionary in Ruthenia in eastern Czechoslovakia, he made an English version. He later added two more stanzas, largely of his own and then in England in 1948 he added a fourth. (The difference between the hymn as now sung and the original are so great that only a few phrases are attributed to the Swedish original.)

In 1949 it was published with a Russian version in a Russian gospel magazine called *Grace and Peace*. George Beverly Shea (b. 1909) saw it during a Billy Graham Crusade to London in 1954. He and Cliff Barrows (b. 1923) used it in 1955 at the Billy Graham Crusade in Toronto, after which it became identified with Shea, Barrows and Billy Graham.

***From the Hymnal Companion
Paul Westermeyer*

Do you have a favorite hymn you would like to sing this summer? Please let me know if you have a hymn request. During July and August, please consider participating in our Summer Music Program as a soloist, instrumentalist, ensemble, family choir, etc. Please contact me to schedule a Sunday to share your musical gifts. You can reach me by phone or text at 717- 991-8862, or email scdbjd@aol.com.

With joyful songs and praise,
Barbara Dupler
Director of Music



It's time for kids to hit the trail....for adventure!
 Shells VBS – July 6 – July 10, 2025
 Meal 5:15 – 6:00pm/Program 6:00 – 8:15pm
Register at – <https://vbspro.events/p/shellsvbs2025>

At True North, kids discover that they can trust Jesus in a wild world! True North is filled with awesome Bible-learning experiences kids see, hear, and touch! Hands-on science experiments, team-building games, unforgettable Bible songs, and tasty treats are just a few of the standout activities that help faith flow into real life. Plus, we'll help kids discover how to see evidence of God in everyday life—something we call God Sightings®. Get ready to hear that phrase a lot! Parents, grandparents, and friends are invited to join us at Compass Closing each night at 7:45pm, a daily celebration of our rock-solid faith in Jesus!

So mark these dates on your calendar: July 6-10, 2025. The fun starts with a light meal being served from 5:15 – 6:00pm in our Social Hall, followed by our program beginning in the Sanctuary at 6:00pm and will end at 8:15pm.

True North is for kids from preschool, 3 yrs. of age, to 5th grade. (Grade completed) Kids 6th grade and older can join us as volunteers!

Register your child/children at <https://vbspro.events/p/shellsvbs2025>. Paper registration forms are also available in the narthex.

If you are interested in volunteering or have any questions, please contact Barb Dupler, 717-991-8862 or Sandy Mader at 717-856-2713.

BAPTISMAL ANNIVERSARIES – JULY

Simon Dengel, Kelly Kauffman, Olivia Gordon, Livy Leese, Jameson Hilbert, Sarah Molitoris, Al Longreen, Benjamin Long, Theodore Long, William Long and Randy Gotshall, Owen Bright, Wesley Bright,

God will never forget that you are his child.

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

7/1	Candy Dupler	7/8	Tom Gordon	7/25	Cristin Espenshade
	Al Longreen		Keaton Espenshade		
	Kelly Dupler	7/10	Nora Holler	7/26	Bev Ulsh
7/4	Suzanne	7/11	Alexis Frye		Louise Murphy
	Molitoris		Sandy Mader		
	Dominic	7/13	Sheryl Rozman		Karlene Jaggan
	Tolland				
7/7	Marianne	7/14	Aidan Mende	7/27	Amber Longreen
	Germann				
	Emily Suhr	7/15	Emma Jurell	7/29	David Roush
	Shane O'Brien	7/23	Alex Gordon	7/30	Sherry Ulsh
		7/25	Al Germann		Jared Espenshade

PRAYER LIST

Prayers for healing of body, mind, or spirit: Joe Budd, Linda DeMario, Mim Fake, Ed Fake, Herb Fisher, Al Germann, Randy Gotshall, Bert Gussler, Alfred Howard, Douglass Howard Jr., Nancy Iachini, Keira K, Iva Rodemaker, 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, Nikolas Jaggan, Domonic DeFrank, Keegan Wenner, Stephen Lugovich, Blake O'Brien, Michael Knaub, John Thomas and Chris O'Brien.

Those who have died:

Those preparing for Holy Matrimony: Amber Sherman and Ryan Jaggan

Those preparing for First Holy Communion:

Those in the Shells Church Catechumenate Process (those preparing for full Confirmed/Voting membership in this congregation): Lexi Frye, Emma Jurell, Evelyn Mende, Julia O'Brien, and Nora Holler.

With thanksgiving, we remember the lives of those who have gone before us in the faith. This month we remember *Robert Bostdorf, Sr., Ray & Helen Lingle, Patricia O'Brien, Charlie Reddinger, Morna Shelahamer, Arlene Spangler, Thomas J. Terry, Wally & Adeline Tloczynski, George Ulsh.*

Family & Friends: Saadia Baker, Skip Balmer, Bill Birtle, Tom Boblitz, Dawn Brink, Owen Burns, David Cavanaugh, Kathie Cavanaugh, Cory Cerperich, Dianne Czupil, Karen Domenico, Verna Ebersole, Joan Espenshade, Lori Farro, Jeanne Flickinger, Bob Gagliardi, Eileen Gagliardi, Christie Gamber, Nancy Gamber, Michael Gelehorte, Michelle Gillette, Adam Gold, Ryann Gold, Anne Gordon, Marian Gudelski, Tom Gussler, Emily Hand, Rob Herman, Michael Hudak, Ben Isett, Elaine Julian, Kerm Katzaman, Joyce King, Lydia Joy Konisiewicz, Joanne Lauver, Lee Lippi, Eileen Longreen, Paul Longreen, Chris Kelly, Pokhim Ker, Rose Mangle, Barb Morrow, Amanda Peck, Maisie Peeler, Lisa Pesta, Tony Prisco, Michael Riley, Laura Lou Rinker, Molly Reinhart, June Rohrbach, Marc Rozman, Natalie Rozman, Sandi Rozman, Ryan, Suzanne Shaeffer, Bill Shultz, Janet Shultz, Kai Sims, Kathy Spangler, Jay Stahl, 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: June/July

	Assistant	Lector	Acolyte	Communion Assistant	Greeter /Usher	Altar Care
July 6 The 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time	Sherry Ulsh	Gen Whitehaus	Lexi Frye	Don Whitehaus	Bert & Karen Gussler	Steve, Kathy & Bethany Espenshade
July 13 The 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time	Karlene Jaggan	Diane Gotshall	Anna Iachini	Louise Murphy	Tom & Sandy Mader	Sandy Mader & Katie Shellenberger

July 20 The 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time	Gen Whitehaus	Lisa Lugovich	Mary Shellenberger	Don Whitehaus	Joe & Diana Budd	Diana Budd & Carol Gordon
July 27 The 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time	Raelene Smith	Karen Gussler	Lily Iachini	Audrey Neiswender	Rick & Linda Blair	Raelene Smith & Janet Klos
August 3 The 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time	Karlene Jaggan	Nadine Espenshade	Abigail Blair	Louise Murphy	Rich & Nadine Espenshade	Louise Murphy, Karen Gussler, & Bobbie Boyer
August 10 The 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time	Gen Whitehaus	Erica Strang	Anna Iachini	Don Whitehaus	Bert & Karen Gussler	Diane Suhr & Terry Kamerzel
August 15 at 7pm Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary	Karlene Jaggan	Lisa Lugovich	Mary Shellnberger, (+) Emma Jurell, and Jacob Mende	Louise Murphy	Rich & Nadine Espenshade	
August 17 The 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time	Raelene Smith	Ed Fake	Douglass Howard	Audrey Neiswender	Rick & Linda Blair	Steve, Kathy & Bethany Espenshade
August 17 at 4pm Anniversary Vespers	N/A	Steve Espenshade	Mary Shellnberger, Abigail Blair, and (+) Jacob Mende	N/A	Tom & Sandy Mader	
August 24 The 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time	Karen Gussler	Ralene Smith	Lily Iachini	Louise Murphy	Tom & Sandy Mader	Sandy Mader & Katie Shellenberger
August 31 The 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time	Sherry Ulsh	Gen Whitehaus	Elli Frye	Don Whitehaus	Joe & Diana Budd	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.

On Sundays that have more than one acolyte scheduled, the name with the (+) denotes serving as the main acolyte (carries the cross, holds the missal book, etc).

JULY 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 6pm Cub Scouts Central PA Food Bank	2 6pm Girl Scouts	3 6pm Cub Scouts	4 10am Independence Day Holy Eucharist at St. John in York, PA	5
6 Ordinary Time 14	7	8	9	10	11	12
	VBS 5:15-8:15pm					
13 Ordinary Time 15	14	15 6pm Cub Scouts	16 6pm Girl Scouts <i>Fr. Barnes Vacation</i>	17 6pm Cub Scouts <i>Fr. Barnes Vacation</i>	18 <i>Fr. Barnes Vacation</i>	19 <i>Fr. Barnes Vacation</i>
20 Ordinary Time 15 <i>Fr. Barnes Vacation</i>	21 5pm Race Track Meal <i>Fr. Barnes Vacation</i>	22 6pm Cub Scouts <i>Fr. Barnes Vacation</i>	23 6pm Girl Scouts Food Pantry <i>Fr. Barnes Vacation</i>	24 6pm Cub Scouts Food Pantry <i>Fr. Barnes Vacation</i>	25 Food Pantry <i>Fr. Barnes Vacation</i>	26
27 Ordinary Time 17	28 2pm First Holy Communion Class	29	30	31		

**SHELLS EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH**

287 Shells Church Rd.

Grantville, PA 17028

Office phone: 717-469-2586

Church website: shellschurch.org

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

Cell: 717-870-4505

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Barbara Dupler, Director of Music

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Theresa Reidmiller, Administrative Assistant

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Charles Schreiber, Treasurer

Email: charlieschreiber514@gmail.com

Council Members:

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