

## **SHELLS MESSENGER**

**Shells Evangelical Lutheran Church**

***April 2024***

Vibrant Worship + Active Service

Accessible Education + Enriching Fellowship

287 Shells Church Road, Grantville, PA 17028

717-469-2586

[www.shellschurch.org](http://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.

### **HOLY WEEK 2024**

**March 24 @ 9am (Shells and St. John) - Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion**

*We recall Jesus' entry into Jerusalem that turns quickly to shouts of "Crucify."*

**March 25 @ 7pm (Shells) - Monday of Holy Week**

*On this day the Church recalls Mary Magdalene anointing Jesus' feet.*

**March 26 @ 7pm (Shells) - Tuesday of Holy Week**

*On this day the Church recalls Judas being named as Jesus' betrayer.*

**March 27 @ Noon (Shells) - Corporate Confession and Forgiveness**

*We gather to confess our sins in preparation for the celebration of the Great Three Days.*

**March 27 @ 7pm (Shells) - Wednesday of Holy Week**

*On this day the Church recalls the betrayal of Jesus.*

**March 28 @ 4pm (St. John) and 7pm (Shells) - Holy/Maundy Thursday**

*We gather to begin the Great Three Days with the celebration of the institution of the Holy Eucharist.*

**March 29 @ Noon - Stations of the Cross**

*We will pray at the stations in the Sanctuary with music.*

**March 29 @ 4pm (St. John) 7pm (Shells) - Liturgy of the Lord's Passion**

*We will remember our Lord's death on the cross and offer our prayers of thanksgiving.*

**March 30 @ 7pm (Shells) - Easter Vigil**

*We will gather outside to light the new fire and illumine the darkness with the light of Christ and the promise of salvation. This liturgy is the culmination of the entire liturgical year complete with baptisms, confirmations, and the reception of new members.*

**March 31 @ 6:45am (Shells) - Easter Sunday Morning Prayer at Sunrise**

*We will gather to celebrate the resurrection in the pavilion.*

**March 31 @ 9am (Shells and St. John) - Easter Sunday: The Resurrection of the Lord**

*We will gather to celebrate our Lord Jesus Christ and his victory over sin, death, and the devil.*

### **THE SEASON OF EASTER**

April 7 @ 9am - **Divine Mercy Sunday** (*Children in Worship*)

April 8 @ 7pm - **Feast of the Annunciation of the Lord** (*Transferred from March 25*)

April 14 @ 9am - **Third Sunday of Easter**

April 21 @ 9am - **Fourth Sunday of Easter**

April 28 @ 9am - **Fifth Sunday of Easter** (*Baptism of Cecelia Coenen*)

May 5 @ 9am - **Sixth Sunday of Easter** (*Children in Worship with Crowning of Mary Statue*)

May 9 @ 7pm - **The Ascension of the Lord**

May 12 @ 9am - **Seventh Sunday of Easter**

May 19 @ 9am - **The Day of Pentecost** (*Rite of Confirmation for Jacob Mende, Mary Shellenberger, Emily Dupler, and Gabe Gonzales*)

**We are blessed to welcome the following new members:**

Holy Baptism: *Carter Schwartz, Crew Schwartz, Lilah Jurrell, and Bryson Terry*

Holy Baptism and Confirmation: *Briana Schwartz*

Rite of Confirmation: *John Thomas*

Rite of Transfer: *Ryan Schwartz, Olga Miller, Alexander Coenen, Helene Coenen, and Haileigh Coenen*

Associate Members: *Thomas Smith and Suzane Yendall*

**Shells Spring Workday****April 20, 2024****8:30am---1:00pm (Rain or Shine)**

*Please join us on April 20th at 8:30am for Shells Spring Workday to help keep our Church in great shape and ready for worship. Some of the Workday Projects we will be working on include:*

--wash all windows and sills – inside and outside  
 --clean and install screens for selected rooms  
 --clean glass globes  
 --clean balcony glass panels  
 --paint touch up  
 --clean misc areas of Church (i.e. by balcony steps)  
 --clean Sanctuary red doors (inside and outside)  
 --clean Christian Education East Door (inside and outside)

--clean Social Room and CE building entry from leaves/dirt  
 --clean outside lights  
 --clean outside oil tanks  
 --clean outside silver rail from upper parking lot  
 --General landscaping—clean & prepare flower beds  
 --Pavilion path—weed and rake  
 --Pavilion--weed, rake, organize, set up and clean benches

**Shells Church is forming a new task force for family fun activities - the Activities Task Force (ATF).** We will plan events like the Fall Festival, trips to the Harrisburg Senators, and days at Knoebels. Please come out to our first meeting on April 10 at 6:30pm.

**Shells A.R.M.Y. (Your Group) will have a a lock-in on May 4th.** Details will be shared closer to the date. Please mark your calendars for a great night! *May the 4th be with you.*

**RACETRACK PROJECT** - Thank you to the Congregation and the Adult Sunday School Class for making this year's project such a success This was the biggest undertaking we have had and you all came through with flying colors. We met our goal with donations and did not have to purchase any items. Wow, what a feat! Special thank you to Diana Budd for keeping us on track and keeping a running count of our items, Linda DeMario for sewing all of the wonderful bags and to my helper and set up girl, Karen Gussler. Everyone did a fantastic job and I appreciate all your help. Since we don't know what our numbers will be going forward, we will continue to collect items as we have this past year.

**APRIL** - Shave Cream & Razors

**MAY & JUNE** - Deodorant & Shampoo

**JULY & AUGUST** - Toothbrushes & Toothpaste

**SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER** - Bar Soap & Combs

**NOVEMBER & DECEMBER** - Tissue & Lip Balm

Thank you all for job well done. Your help and participation is so appreciated.

~ Louise Murphy

**This month's special offering will go to benefit the Love of Family.** This fund is designed to assist those in the congregation and the community financially in the narthex.

**The Girl Scouts will be collecting sneakers.** They can be any size or condition. There is a box in the Narthex.

**The 2024 Altar Flower sign up sheet is available in the narthex.** The following dates are still available April 28, June 30, August 4, October 20, 27. **Please remember to fill out a purple form or email [shellsadmin@shellschurch.org](mailto:shellsadmin@shellschurch.org) with the dedication.**

**Drug Take Back Day is Saturday April 27 from 10-2pm.** Penn State Health locations: Hershey Medical Center, Nyes Rd offices, Palmyra office, Lancaster Medical Center, Holy Spirit Hospital. If you have any questions, please see Kathy Espenshade.

**Thank you to Rick and Linda Blair** for the donation of cafeteria style trays for our kitchen and a stand to hold them.

**BAPTISMAL ANNIVERSARIES – APRIL**

*Joran Frye  
Pauletta Shelahamer  
Grace Peterson  
Jean Wiest  
John Terry  
Dave Rodemaker  
Linda Blair  
Benjamin Roush  
Karen Gussler  
Betty Lou Cain  
Aidan Mende*

*Barbara Dupler  
Glen Peterson  
Haidee Peterson  
Diana Budd  
Rosemary Deibler  
Erna O'Brien  
Christiana Frye  
Rena Sattazahn  
Bev Ulsh  
Crystal Blair  
Stephen Shellenberger  
Mike Hilbert*

***God will never forget that you are his child.***

**BIRTHDAY GREETINGS**

Apr 3	Justine Wiltraut	Apr 17	Charlotte Tolland
Apr 4	Rick Elliott	Apr 18	Kelly Kauffman
Apr 7	Chad Leese	Apr 20	Lilah Jurell
Apr 10	Vicki Hilbert	Apr 21	Zane Stayton
	Erik Espenshade	Apr 26	Betty Espenshade
	Lucas Terry		Jameson Hilbert
Apr 12	Ed Fake	Apr 27	Karen Elliott
	Holly Roush		
	Albert Germann, Jr.		
	Evelyn Wiltraut		

## SHELLS MUSIC MINISTRY

*“Give thanks to the Lord, for the Lord is good;  
God’s mercy endures forever.  
This is the day that the Lord has made;  
Let us rejoice and be glad in it!”*

Psalm 118:1, 24

A special note of thanks to the Senior Choir, our Sunday School Children and confirmands, our Hand Chime Choir, soloists and instrumentalists for sharing in our music ministry during our Lenten journey, and as we approach Holy Week and the glorious celebration of the Resurrection of our Lord. Thank you all for sharing your gifts, enhancing our liturgy with your musical offerings!

The **Senior Choir** will continue to lead worship during the Sundays of Easter. The choir rehearses Thursday evening 7:00– 8:15pm. An invitation to share in our music ministry is extended to all.

Our **Children in Worship** Sunday School music program continues for our children in preschool through sixth grade, providing opportunities for them to share in worship in many ways. *Shells Bells*, our children’s bell choir, play and learn music as part of the Sunday school opening each week. Thank you to our children, our confirmands and teachers for leading the Procession with Palms, and for their presentation of the processional Gospel and the Passion reading on Palm Sunday.

Our Children & Youth **Handchime Choir** for grades 2<sup>nd</sup> through senior high youth continues with rehearsals the **first and third Sunday** of each month. We rehearse in the choir room immediately following worship. We are working on music for the Easter season. Please join us to discover handchimes!

### CHOIR SCHEDULE:

March 28 – 7pm Maundy Thursday – *“Cross of Jesus;” Psalm 22 (Stripping of altar) – Senior Choir*

March 29 – 7pm Good Friday – Gospel Reading, Cantors Diane Gotshall, Erica Strang

March 30 – 7pm The Great Vigil of Easter – *Special Music*

March 31 – Resurrection of Our Lord/Easter – *“Christ Is Alive” – Senior Choir*

Apr. 7 – *Children In Worship*

Apr. 14 – *This Joyful Eastertide – Senior Choir*

Apr. 21 – *The Lamb – Senior Choir*

Apr. 28 – *Lord of the Dance – Senior Choir*

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

With joyful songs and praise,  
Barbara Dupler  
Director of Music

**Prayer List:** Betty Espenshade, Don Espenshade, Ed Fake, Mim Fake, Al Germann, Angie Gonzales, Alfred Howard, Doug Howard, Jr., Nancy Iachini, Keira Karijomenggolo, Iva Rodemaker, Lucas Smith, Larry Suhr, Bev Ulsh, Jack Ulsh, Our Shells Family Shut-ins, Our Law Enforcement Officers and Service Women & Men, especially Matt Gordon, Crist Espenshade, Nikolas Jaggan, James Hess, Keegan Neiswender, Stephen Lugovich, Blake O'Brien, Michael Knaub, John Thomas and Chris O'Brien.

**Those who have died:**

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

**Family & Friends:** Sandy Mort Backauskas, Fern Baker, Saadia Baker, Nancy Balmer, Bill Birtle, Billie Jo Blatt and family, Tom Boblitz, Dawn Brink, Anna Buck, Owen Burns, Cory Cerperich, Verna Ebersole, Joan Espenshade, Craig Feaster, Mary Feaster, Kathy Fouse, Michael Gelehorte, Anne Gordon, Tom Gussler, Emily Hand, Rob Herman, Michael Hudak, Lydia Joy Konisiewicz, Lee Lippi, Larry, Eileen Longreen, Paul Longreen, Chris Kelly, Dan Martin, Barb Morrow, Amanda Peck, Maisie Peeler, Lisa Pesta, Tony Prisco, Michael Riley, Laura Lou Rinker, Ken Rebeck, Molly Reinhart, June Rohrbach, Yvonne Rosenberger, Ryan, Suzanne Shaeffer, Bill Shultz, Janet Shultz, Kathy Spangler, Jay Stahl, Matt Stayton, Steve Tentylo, Stephanie Wagner, Kyle Wentz, Carol Wilson, and Jennie Womack.

**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.

**Worship Assistants Schedule: March/April**

	<b>Assistant</b>	<b>Lector</b>	<b>Acolyte</b>	<b>Communion Assistant</b>	<b>Greeter /Usher</b>	<b>Altar Care</b>
<b>March 28 Holy/Maundy Thursday 7pm</b>	Karen Gussler @ Karlene Jaggan	Riley Gonzales	Gabe Gonzales, Jacob Mende, Douglass Howard	Don Whitehaus	Tom & Sandy Mader	
<b>March 29 Liturgy of the Lord's Passion 7pm</b>	Karlene Jaggan & Karen Gussler	Nora Holler	Lexi Frye	N/A	Joe & Diana Budd	
<b>March 30 Easter Vigil At 7pm</b>	Karlene Jaggan	Karen Gussler, Nadine Espenshade, Raelene Smith, Ed Fake, Steve Espenshade, Lisa Lugovich & Brenda Frye	Mary Shellenberger, Douglass Howard, Ellie Frye	N/A	Rich & Nadine Espenshade	

<b>March 31 Easter Sunday</b>	Karen Gussler	Steve Espenshade	Douglass Howard, Anna Iachini, Mary Shellenberger	Audrey Neiswender	Bert & Karen Gussler	Steve, Kathy & Bethany Espenshade
<b>April 7 Second Sunday of Easter</b>	Sherry Ulsh	Gabe Gonzales	Douglass Howard	Dick Wenner	Joe & Diana Budd	Sandy Mader & Katie Shellenberger
<b>April 8 Annunciation of the Lord 7pm</b>	Karlene Jaggan	Lisa Lugovich	Jacob Mende	Don Whitehaus	Tom & Carol Gordon	
<b>April 14 Third Sunday of Easter</b>	Raelene Smith	Raelene Smith	Jordan Frye	Don Whitehaus	Tom & Sandy Mader	Diana Budd & Carol Gordon
<b>April 21 Fourth Sunday of Easter</b>	Gen Whitehaus	Dick Wenner	Abigail Blair	Audrey Neiswender	Joe & Diana Budd	Raelene Smith & Janet Klos
<b>April 28 Fifth Sunday of Easter</b>	Karlene Jaggan	Lisa Lugovich	Lexi Frye	Louise Murphy	Rich & Nadine Espenshade	Louise Murphy, Karen Gussler & Bobbie Boyer
<b>May 5 Sixth Sunday of Easter</b>	Karen Gussler	Jordan Frye	Jacob Mende, Mary Shellenberger, & Gabe Gonzales	Louise Murphy	Rick & Linda Blair	Diane Suhr & Terry Kamerzel
<b>May 9 Ascension Day 7pm</b>	Karen Gussler	Steve Espenshade	Ellie Frye, Douglass Howard, & Anna Iachini	Dick Wenner	Joe & Diana Budd	
<b>May 12 Seventh Sunday of Easter</b>	Sherry Ulsh	Diane Gotshall	Lexi Frye	Don Whitehaus	Bert & Karen Gussler	Steve, Kathy & Bethany Espenshade
<b>May 19 Day of Pentecost</b>	Karlene Jaggan	Karen Gussler	Abigail Blair, Ellie Frye, & Nora Holler	Dick Wenner	Tom & Sandy Mader	Sandy Mader & Katie Shellenberger
<b>May 26 Holy Trinity</b>	Gen Whitehaus	Nadine Espenshade	Jacob Mende, Mary Shellenberger, & Gabe Gonzales	Audrey Neiswender	Joe & Diana Budd	Diana Budd & Carol Gordon

**If you are unable to fulfill your assigned duty, please find a replacement and notify the Church Office.**

## APRIL

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>1</b> 6:30pm Bible Study @ St. John	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> 2-4pm CATRA Bowling
<b>7</b> <b>Divine Mercy Sunday</b> <i>Children in Worship</i> 10:30am Hand Chime Choir 6pm Boy Scouts	<b>8</b> <b>7pm Annunciation of the Lord</b>	<b>9</b> 6:30pm Parish Council Meeting	<b>10</b> 6-8:30pm Girl Scouts 6:30pm ATF Meeting	<b>11</b> 6-7pm Cub Scouts 7pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b> <b>Third Sunday of Easter</b> 9am Sunday School & Confirmation 10:45am Adult Forum 6pm Boy Scouts	<b>15</b> 6:30pm Bible Study @ St. John	<b>16</b> 6:30pm Learning Ministry	<b>17</b> 6-8:30pm Girl Scouts Food Pantry	<b>18</b> 6-7pm Cub Scouts 7pm Choir Rehearsal Food Pantry	<b>19</b> Food Pantry	<b>20</b> 8:30am - 1pm Spring Work Day
<b>21</b> <b>Fourth Sunday of Easter</b> 9am Sunday School & Confirmation 10:30am Hand Chime Choir 10:45am Adult Forum 6pm Boy Scouts	<b>22</b> 6:30pm Bible Study @ Shells	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 6-8:30pm Girl Scouts	<b>25</b> 6-7pm Cub Scouts 7pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> <b>Fifth Sunday of Easter</b> 9am Sunday School & Confirmation 10:45am Adult Forum	<b>29</b> 6:30pm Bible Study @ St. John	<b>30</b>				

**Father Barnes will be on vacation from April 1-7 and April 28-May 3. He will also be on a Continuing Education Retreat on April 22 & 23. Please contact the Church Office with any Pastoral Emergencies.**

**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

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, L. DeMario, K. Espenshade, B. Frye (S),  
C. Frye, S. Mader (VP), R. Smith (P), T. Terry, S.