

SHELLS MESSENGER
Shells Evangelical Lutheran Church
July 2026

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:

Mark your calendars for a celebration of Pastor Helmer's 50th Ordination Anniversary at St. John Hoernerstown on July 1 at 6:00pm. Dinner will follow in the Social Hall.

Hymn Sing at St. John Lutheran Church Hoernerstown on July 26 at 3pm. An ice cream social will follow in the social hall.

First Holy Communion Classes will be held in the Social Hall on July 27, August 3, and August 10 at 2pm. Please contact the church office to sign your children up for classes. We will celebrated First Holy Communion on August 15 at 7pm.

St. John Lutheran Church Hoernerstown will be hosting another hog maw dinner on September 13 at 5pm. A sign-up sheet will be placed in the narthex closer to the date.

This month's special offering will go to benefit VBS: Kid 2 Kid. Please pick up an envelope in the Narthex.

Congratulations to our 2026 Graduates: Colton O'Brien, Evan Dupler, Riley Gonzales, Keira Karijommengolo, and Mina Sholder.

Riley Gonzales has been accepted to HACC for culinary with a pastry certificate. He plans to continue drumming with his friends and their band. We are so excited for the next chapter of his life and watching him grow!

Colton O'Brien graduated from Wyotech Technical School located in Laramie, Wyoming in March, having majored in the Deisel Technology program in addition to the Welding program. He is currently working for Haldeman Farms.

Evan Dupler graduated with honors from Pennsylvania College of Technology with an associates of applied science in electrical technology. He is employed with Manada Automation Group.

Mina Sholder will be attending Millersville University this fall to study special education.

Our family would like to express our deepest gratitude to everyone who donated to the Love of Family Fund towards the purchase of our van. With your donations we were able to purchase a 2024 Honda Odyssey. Your generosity, kindness and support have made a tremendous difference in our lives. Because of you, we now have a way for Ryan to become a fully independent driver which helps with our everyday need of having two vehicles, and providing greater peace of mind for our family.

We are truly humbled by the love and encouragement shown to us. Thank you for investing in our family and for being part of this blessing. Your support means more than words can express, and we will always be grateful for your generosity.

*With sincere appreciation:
The Jaggan/Sims Family*

STEWARDSHIP/GIVING (May 31, 2026)

2026 Approved Budget \$306,815

General Fund Income: \$181,361.04
General Fund Expenses: \$128,837.76

Special Funds YTD Contributions

Grantville Food Pantry: \$2,085.06
Capital Improvement Fund: \$22,380
Downtown Daily Bread: \$80
ELCA Good Gifts: \$120
Love of Family: \$41,603
Lutheran World Relief: \$260
Adult Forum: \$105
ELCA World Hunger: \$90
Abiding Memorial Fund \$125

BAPTISMAL ANNIVERSARIES – JULY

Simon Dengel, Kelly Kauffman, Olivia Gordon, Livy Leese, Jameson Hilbert, Sarah Molitoris, Al Longreen, Benjamin Long, Theodore Long, William Long, 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

SHELLS MUSIC MINISTRY

Jesus Loves Me

Jesus loves me! this I know, for the Bible tells me so; little ones to him belong, they are weak, but he is strong.

[Refrain] Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

Jesus loves me! he who died, heaven's gate to open wide; he will wash away my sin, let his little child come in. [Refrain]

Jesus loves me! he will stay close beside me all the way; when at last I come to die, he will take me home on high. [Refrain]

With good reason, the hymn *Jesus Loves Me* is considered the most popular of all Sunday School hymns. It was written by Anna B. Warner and appeared in the novel *Say and Seal* (Philadelphia, 1860), that Anna and her sister Susan wrote. In that novel an ill young boy named Johnny asks his Sunday School teacher, Mr. Linden, to sing, and he sings this song. William B. Bradbury wrote the tune for this hymn, added the refrain, and published it in his Sunday school book called *The Golden Shower* (1862).

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



Get your kids ready for a vine time!

Shells VBS – July 12 – July 16, 2026

Meal 5:15 – 6:00pm/Program 6:00 – 8:15pm

Register at – <https://vbspro.events/p/shellsvbs2026>

At Rainforest Falls, kids explore the nature of God! Rainforest Falls 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 Canopy Closing each night at 7:45pm, a daily celebration of our awesome God!

So mark these dates on your calendar: July 12-16, 2026. 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.

Rainforest Falls 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/shellsvbs2026>

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



PRAYER LIST

Prayers for healing of body, mind, or spirit: Mildred Bower, Bobbie Boyer, Diana Budd, Linda DeMario, Sam Dupler, Edward Elliott, Betty Espenshade, Crist Espenshade, Cristin Espenshade, Nadine Espenshade, Ed Fake, Mim Fake, Herb Fisher, Angie Gonzales, Diane Gotshall, The Rev. Peter Helmers, Shirley Huber, Nancy Iachini, Keira K, Tregan Layton, Blaine Moreland, Erna O'Brien, Kevin O'Brien, 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, Ryan, John Thomas and Chris O'Brien.

Those who have died:

Those preparing for Holy Matrimony: Tyler Smith and Caitlin Reed

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, Douglass Howard, Anna Iachini, Lauren O'Brien and Lucas Terry.

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

Family & Friends: Saadia Baker, Conrad Baylock, Bill Birtle, Tom Boblitz, Dawn Brink, Nancy Bucks, Owen Burns, David Cavanaugh, Kathie Cavanaugh, Roberta Centurian, Cory Cerperich, Dianne Czupil, Karen Domenico, Beverly Drake, Dale Espenshade, Joan Espenshade, Rick & Lori Farro, Erma Fiedler, Nancy Gamber, Michael Gelehorte, Adam Gold, Ryann Gold, Anne Gordon, Celine Gudelski, Marian Gudelski, Tom Gussler, Larry Hall, Emily Hand, Rob Herman, Clarence Hitz, Ben Isett, Elaine Julian, Kerm Katzaman, Joyce King, Lydia Joy Konisiewicz, Evadne Kopp, Delores Kuntz, Lee Lippi, Eileen Longreen, Paul Longreen, Chris Kelly, Pokhim Ker, Linda Kissinger, Barb Morrow, Nancy Osokie, Leo Polvekosky, Amanda Peck, Maisie Peeler, Lisa Pesta, Tony Prisco, Michael Riley, Laura Lou Rinker, Molly Reinhart, Marc Rozman, Natalie Rozman, Sandi Rozman, Ryan, Suzanne Shaeffer, Barry Shirk, Barry Spatz, Jay Stahl, Arlene Terry, Avis & David Wagner, Dale Walmer, Aria Wenner, Kyle Wentz, Carol Wilson, Jennie Womack and Linda Yarnell.

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: July/ August

	Assistant	Lector	Acolyte	Communion Assistant	Greeter /Usher	Altar Care
July 5 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time	Karlene Jaggan	Brenda Frye	Mary Shellenberger (+), Ellie Frye, & Darby Sims	Audrey Neiswender	Rich & Nadine Espenshade	Louise Murphy, Karen Gussler & Bobbie Boyer
July 12 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time	Sherry Ulsh	Steve Espenshade	Lexi Frye	Louise Murphy	Bert & Karen Gussler	Diane Suhr & Terry Kamerzel
July 19 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time	Gen Whitehaus	Erica Strang	Julia O'Brien	Don Whitehaus	Amber Jaggan & Karen Lingle	Steve, Kathy & Bethany Espenshade
July 26 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time	Raelene Smith	Gen Whitehaus	Lucas Terry	Don Whitehaus	Rick & Linda Blair	Sandy Mader & Katie Shellenberger
August 2 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time	Karen Gussler	Diane Gotshall	Abigail Blair	Audrey Neiswender	Tom & Sandy Mader	Diana Budd & Carol Gordon
August 9 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time	Karlene Jaggan	Nancy Iachini	Lily Iachini	Louise Murphy	Diana Budd & Audrey Neiswender	Raelene Smith & Janet Klos
August 15 Assumption of Blessed Virgin Mary @ 7pm	Karen Gussler	Raelene Smith	Julia O'Brien (+), Lucas Terry, & Abigail Blair	Louise Murphy	Tom & Sandy Mader	
August 16 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time	Sherry Ulsh	Olga Miller	Darby Sims	Audrey Neiswender	Rich & Nadine Espenshade	Louise Murphy, Karen Gussler & Bobbie Boyer
August 23 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time	Gen Whitehaus	Lisa Lugovich	Anna Iachini	Don Whitehaus	Bert & Karen Gussler	Diane Suhr & Terry Kamerzel
August 30 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time	Raelene Smith	Diana Budd	Abigail Blair	Louise Murphy	Amber Jaggan & family	Steve, Kathy & Bethany Espenshade

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 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 6:30pm Pastor Helmers 50 th Ordination Anniversary Celebration at St. John Hoernerstown	2	3	4
5 Ordinary Time 14	6	7	8	9 5:30pm Council Picnic	10	11
12 Ordinary Time 15	13	14	15	16	17	18
	<i>VBS 5:15-8:15pm</i>					
19 Ordinary Time 16	20 5pm Race Track Meal	21	22 Food Pantry	23 Food Pantry	24 Food Pantry	25
26 Ordinary Time 17 3pm Hymn Sing & Ice Cream Social @ St. John Hoernerstown	27 2pm First Holy Communion Class	28 10:30am Staff Meeting	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

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: charlieschreiber514@gmail.com

Council Members:

D. Budd, S. Espenshade, B. Frye (VP), C. Frye (S), S. Mader (P), M. Stremmel, T. Terry, R. Jaggan (T)