

The Shepherd's Call

“Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.”

With these ancient words from Genesis 3:19, Ash Wednesday propels us into the season of Lent with the proper context to understand our lives as stewards of all that God entrusts to us.

The essential teaching of Ash Wednesday – that we are just mortals – crushes our ego, dispels our pretensions and drives us deep into God’s mysteries. Why are we here? What are our lives all about? What’s really important? Pray over these questions and profound insights emerge.

We are dust. Yes, but we are God’s dust. Our body consists of trillions of atoms, each one a speck of “dust” created by God, billions of years ago. God put us together from the very stuff of the universe.

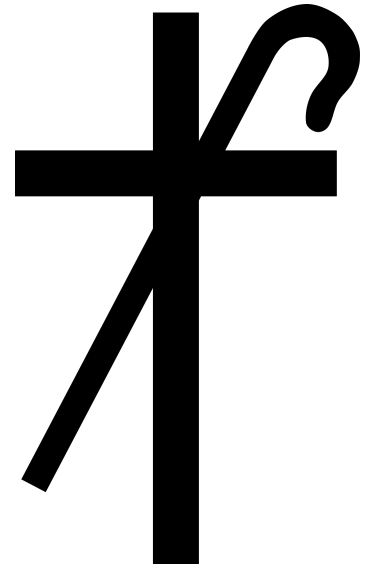
- We are quite literally “earthy” beings, made of the same material as air, water, soil and stone. Part of creation, we work to preserve and sustain the health of God’s world.
- We have reverence for our bodies, expressed through healthy living.

We are breath. We are “dust,” but not only dust. We are “dust” into which God has “breathed the Holy breath of life” (Genesis 2:7).

- Every breath we take is holy. Every breath is a prayer that reminds us of God’s life force in us.
- We strive to align our lives and ourselves with God’s holy reality that arcs towards peace, love, joy, justice and truth.

Our time is brief. Because our “dust” will return to the earth, we live a finite number of minutes on earth.

- Every hour, every second is sacred. We spend our time wisely, carefully, prayerfully.
- We do not cling to our possessions, knowing that we only hold



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Special points of interest

- The Women of the ELCA are collecting items for personal care kits!
- The office will be closed two Thursdays in March.
- Please note that the fellowship hall has been reserved for a private event early in April.
- Handbell and choir rehearsal schedules have changed temporarily for Lent.

Council Members

President

Jeff Neiman

Vice President and Recording Secretary

Joanne Clark

Evangelism

Outreach

Kristin Neiman

Music and Worship

George Strunk

Christian Education

Moriah Horton

Fellowship

Claudia Ball

Property

Floyd Clark

Stewardship

Trey Ball

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onto them for a little while.

- We nourish our lives with treasures of real value – friendships, trust, love, joy, service, generosity and harmony.

This Lent, let's spend time in prayer, asking God to turn our hearts and minds, transforming us into the people we were created to be.

"Remember you are dust, and to dust you shall return."

Quilt Raffle Results

Congratulations to Beth Gettle! She was the winner of the WELCA quilt raffle. The drawing was held at the LMM spaghetti supper on February 15. Thank you to all who purchased tickets for the raffle. We made \$254 on the raffle and will use that money to buy quilting supplies for our Lutheran World Relief quilts.



March Volunteers

March 2

Altar Guild Barnhart
Usher Arnie Sampson
Greeter Claudia Ball
Assistant Dean Nelson

March 9

Altar Guild Sampson
Usher Trey Ball
Greeters Arnie and Carol
Sampson
Assistant Joanne Clark

March 16

Altar Guild Forsleff
Usher Ricky Ball
Greeter Erika Forsleff
Assistant George Strunk

March 23

Altar Guild Barnhart
Usher Mike Barnhart
Greeter Virginia
Cheatham
Assistant Dean Nelson

March 30

Altar Guild Sampson
Usher Ron Schaible
Greeter Sue Peacock
Assistant Tim Hively

Personal Care Kits

During this season of Lent, our WELCA group of Good Shepherd is supporting Lutheran World Relief's Project Promise. We are asking for items to be used in Personal Care Kits. Please help us by donating any of the following:

- 1 light-weight bath-size towel (between 20"x 40" and 52"x 27"), dark color recommended
- 2 or 3 bath-size bars of soap equaling 8 to 9 oz., any brand, in original wrapping
- 1 adult-size toothbrush in its original packaging
- 1 sturdy comb, remove packaging
- 1 metal nail clippers (attached file optional), remove packaging



You can drop off your donations under the church's portico outside the red doors. Thank you so much for your support.

Important Reminder

Please remember that when the church building is empty, all doors should be locked and all lights should be turned off.

Even if you think you aren't the last one out of the building, go ahead and lock up! If someone gets locked in, some doors like the kitchen door lock when closed, so there's always a way out, and not as many ways inside.

ZOOM Bags

The latest round of ZOOM Bags is done and in the fellowship hall. Feel free to take some bags and give them out to those in need. If you have any questions, feel free to call Kristin Neiman at 919-738-9674!

Sunday Worship with Zoom

The Zoom information for Sunday worship is below:

Meeting ID: 832 3194 4866

Password: 992248

Call in (toll number):
1.646.558.8656

Giving to the Church

Your faithfulness and regular giving of tithes and offerings to the church is greatly appreciated. Mail is regularly delivered to the church. If you wish to use the secure online giving at the church you may create an account with Tithe.ly by clicking on the "Donate" link on our Web site.

March Readings

March 2: Transfiguration

First Reading: Exod 34:29-35

Psalm: 99

Second reading: 2 Cor 3:12—4:2

Gospel: Luke 9:28-43a

March 5: Ash Wednesday

First Reading: Joel 2:1-2, 12-17

Second reading: 2 Cor 5:20—6:10

Gospel: Matt 6:1-6, 16-21

March 9: 1 Lent

First Reading: Deut 26:1-11

Psalm: 91:1-2, 9-16

Second reading: Rom 10:8b-13

Gospel: Luke 4:1-13

March 16: 2 Lent

First Reading: Gen 15:1-12, 17-18

Psalm: 27

Second reading: Phil 3:17—4:1

Gospel: Luke 13:31-35

March 23: 3 Lent

First Reading: Isa 55:1-9

Psalm: 63:1-8

Second reading: 1 Cor 10:1-13

Gospel: Luke 13:1-9

March 30: 4 Lent

First Reading: Josh 5:9-12

Psalm: 32

Second reading: 2 Cor 5:16-21

Gospel: Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

NC Synod Assembly

This year's synod assembly will be held May 29-31 in Greensboro. We are now looking for a female member to send as a voting member from our congregation. This year, we will be voting on a new bishop in addition to the regular business of the synod. Please prayerfully consider this opportunity and let Pastor Sandra know if you would be interested.

Office Closures in March

The church office will be closed on two dates in March:

- Thursday, March 6
- Thursday, March 20

Maureen will be in the church office for her usual hours on both Wednesday and Friday before and after these dates!

Ash Wednesday

Good Shepherd's Ash Wednesday service with the imposition of ashes will be at 7:00 PM on Wednesday, March 5.

A purple poster with white and yellow text. The title 'Lenten Formation Series' is at the top in large white letters. Below it, 'Drawing Near to God: Exploring Spiritual Practices' is in smaller white letters. A quote 'James 4:8' is in yellow. The schedule 'Wednesday nights from 6:00 - 7:30' is in white, with 'Dinner & Childcare(if needed) provided' and 'ALL are welcome' below it. A list of dates and locations follows: '3/12 St. Andrew's - Almsgiving and Service' (901 Harris Street), '3/19 Good Shepherd - Prayer' (532 Country Day Road), '3/26 St. Francis - Scripture and Worship' (503 Forest Hill Drive), '4/2 Holy Innocents' - Sabbath Keeping & Gratitude' (6861 NC-55), and '4/9 St. Stephen's - Fasting & Confession' (200 North James Street). A black book with a white cross is on the right.

Lenten Formation Series

Drawing Near to God:
Exploring Spiritual Practices

James 4:8

Wednesday nights from 6:00 - 7:30
Dinner & Childcare(if needed) provided
ALL are welcome

3/12 St. Andrew's - Almsgiving and Service
901 Harris Street

3/19 Good Shepherd - Prayer
532 Country Day Road

3/26 St. Francis - Scripture and Worship
503 Forest Hill Drive

4/2 Holy Innocents' - Sabbath Keeping & Gratitude
6861 NC-55

4/9 St. Stephen's - Fasting & Confession
200 North James Street

Rehearsal Schedule in Lent

The schedule for choir and handbell rehearsal will change temporarily during Lent. The choir and the handbell choir will not meet on Wednesday evenings beginning on March 5. Instead, beginning March 9, the choir will rehearse at 11:00 AM after the worship service, and beginning March 11, the handbell choir will rehearse at 6:00 PM. This schedule will continue through Lent until Sunday, March 13 and Tuesday, March 8.

We expect Wednesday evening practice (6:00 PM for handbells and 7:00 PM for the choir) to resume on April 16, but look for updates in the future!

Keep up with GSLC Online

There are many ways to keep up with Good Shepherd online. Check us out at:

Our Web site:

www.goodshepherd-goldsboro.org

Our Facebook page:

www.facebook.com/GoodShepherdGoldsboro

NC Synod

Would you like to know what is going on in the NC Synod? You can sign up for the Synod E-News through:

- Facebook—NC Synod, ELCA
- Twitter—@nclutheran
- Web page—www.nclutheran.org
- E-news directly in your inbox—sign up at www.nclutheran.org

March Birthdays

13	Sarah Barnhart
14	Chris Boykin
14	Randy Swackhammer
16	Martha Nay
23	Alexa Barnhart

March Anniversary

**David and Andrea
Lund**
March 11

Church Office Hours

Monday—Friday
8:30 AM—2:00 PM
(Lunch 11:30—12:00)

Prayer Concerns

Ricky Ball • Kenneth Cline • Jerry Deakle • Tim and Becky Hively • Peggy Hodel • Sue Kampstra • Lee Lane • Joyce Luttenberger • Martha Nay • Ned Petrak • family of Paul Samosky • Carol Sampson • Randy Swackhammer

The church office will automatically rotate names off the prayer list after four weeks without receiving updated information.

Community Soup Kitchen

Have fun while serving others! Sign up for the Community Soup Kitchen. Good Shepherd volunteers on the third Wednesday of each month at 10:00 AM.

This month, that will be **March 19.**



Private Event in April

The fellowship hall has been reserved for a private event on Saturday, April 5 from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM. Thank you for helping to make this space available to our guests!

WELCA

The Helms/Middleton Circle will meet Tuesday, March 11th at 10:00 in the Fellowship Hall for refreshments (Claudia Ball), Bible Study, and our regular business meeting. We will select a nominating committee for the election of officers for the 2025-26 year. We also need to select a delegate to the NC WELCA Convention in June.

We will be collecting personal care kits during Lent.

Also, anyone willing to help provide the Soup Kitchen with any personal hygiene items, leave in the Fellowship Hall and we will take items to them. That might include Kotex, Tampons, lotions, soap, toothbrush/paste.

Peggy Wingate
President

Lutheran Men in Mission

The men of the church will meet on Saturday, March 15 at 8:00 AM. All the men of the church are welcome to attend. We will enjoy fellowship time, breakfast, and a short devotion.

90-Day Bible Challenge

The 90-Day Bible Challenge is in full swing! We began the challenge on New Year's Day (January 1) and have weekly "check-ins" and discussions on Sunday mornings during Christian Formation time (9:00-9:45). Printed copies of the reading schedule are available in the fellowship hall for anyone who wants to join in or who needs a new copy.

The congregation with the highest percentage of people who begin the challenge and complete it will receive the coveted "Golden Bible!"

Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for submissions for the March 2025 newsletter is Thursday, March 20. Thank you for your help!

Easter Lilies Coming Soon

Look for Easter lily orders in bulletins in March! Order deadlines and prices will be finalized soon and we will begin taking orders this month. Once again we will be supporting Literacy Connections of Wayne County when we order Easter lilies.

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, ELCA
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Goldsboro, NC 27530
919-735-0128
www.goodshepherdgoldsboro.org
goodshepherdsec@ncrrbiz.com



WORSHIP WITH US!

Sunday School with Pastor Sandra Burroughs is at 9:00 AM.
Worship is online and in-person at 10:00 AM.
Everyone is invited!

MISSION STATEMENT

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church is a Christ centered community serving through word and action.

CORE VALUES

Christ Centered....Relationships....Mindfulness....Generosity