



# JANUARY

- Sunday, 9**      Worship 11:00 am
- Thursday, 13**      Women's Association Bible Study 10 am Lesson 5: **Ruth and Redemption ~ *Bring your lunch.***
- Thursday, 13**      Session Meeting 6 pm
- Saturday, 15**      Un-Decorating the Sanctuary Party 10 am
- Sunday, 16**      Worship 11:00
- Sunday, 23**      Worship 11:00  
Annual Congregational Meeting after Worship
- Thursday, 27**      Valentine Bags for Sharing Table 10 am (Clothing & Toiletries donations, Sharing Table to be held on February 12)
- Saturday, 29**      Men's Breakfast in the Upper room 9am

**Due to the latest variant of the COVID virus, it is imperative to stay safe. While joining services and activities at Good Shepherd, please wear a mask! We look forward to a happy, healthy 2022 with you!**



As the holiday season draws to a close, we sit back and take a long, deep, cleansing breath. We have been through a rough year – with our families, our nation, and the world, and with our church. Some of us have lost loved ones to COVID or other perils. The ecological security of the whole world is in a precarious balance. All of the uncertainties leave us frazzled and anxious. It is more and more difficult to maintain hope for a brighter tomorrow.

And then there's the Church – Good Shepherd in particular, but the Church at large as well. As much as we try to focus on transcendent, divine things, the Church is not beyond the concerns that plague all of us – Remote, then masked hybrid worship is a real challenge for maintaining community fellowship and connection. Pledging and tithing always take a hit in times of financial uncertainty. Our Children's Center has had to weather several COVID quarantine episodes.

But the Church has more than just hope on our side. We have ASSURANCE. Assurance does not mean that "everything is going to be all right." We will still face times of pain and loss, and our little congregation may not survive. Assurance means that, whatever our future may be, it will be part of God's plan – God, who is all-knowing and all-seeing, all-loving and all-giving. We entrust our lives to this God and claim confidently that "All things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to God's purpose." (Romans 8:28).

This New Year's message has started out a bit somber, but the Good News has not passed us by quite yet! I am very confident that Good Shepherd has a continuing role to play in this community. Thanks to the Federal and State COVID grants for the Children's Center, we have been able to continue to support the children of many families in our neighborhood and beyond. With many thanks to Sue Thompson, this year's Live Nativity, complete with sheep, a goat, two alpacas, and a chicken, was a big hit, and very much appreciated by folks who stopped by ("We don't get to see things like this in Joppa"). It means that we have the ability to impact life in unexpected and meaningful ways and presses us to find more events and activities that our neighbors can enjoy.

But above these ministries, programs, and activities, my greatest enjoyment is in the people of Good Shepherd. There is a vibrant core of dedicated, thoughtful, energetic members who keep everything going week in and week out. These brothers and sisters are beautiful examples of living faith. I am also certain that they would welcome others to join in the fun of "being church."

I urge everyone to consider this question: "How can I help Good Shepherd fulfill its service to God this year."

PEACE,

Pastor Kerry





## WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION COOKIES WITH THE KIDS



The GS Woman's Association baked cookies with our Three's and Four's classes. Their cookies were amazing, and everyone was able to take goodie bags home! Thank you for sharing with me!



## The Women's Association has many activities planned for the New Year!

Please join us for any or all. Our **Bible Study** continues, you can still join us even if you have not been attending.

We also will be packing **Valentine Bags** for the Sharing Table, **Stuffing Easter Eggs** for our Annual Hunt, and **Making Cards** to send to our congregation members. Dates will be in the bulletin and the Yarn.

### January 2022 Activities Dates:

**Thursday, January 13 10:00 AM:**

**Circle Bible Study** Lesson 5: **Ruth and Redemption** ~ **Bring your lunch.**

**Thursday, January 27 10:00 AM:**

**Packing Valentine Bags for Sharing Table**

**December was a very busy month for the Women's Association.**

We want to thank all those who baked cookies for the **60 gift bags** that were given to the parents of the children in our Children Center.

On December 16, Delores Barr was in charge of our **Cookie Baking Day** with the Children's Center kids. Great fun!

On December 17, we served hot chocolate and cookies to the Live Nativity participants. The next day, Saturday, was our annual **Women's Christmas Party**. This time it was a Brunch. What a blessing to finally be able to gather again and enjoy fellowship with our church family!

Thanks to all who participated in these events. It made our Christmas holiday season very special.

### **Donations for the February Sharing Table Valentine Bags**

Even in this time of COVID, we will still be participating at the February Sharing Table which will be held on February 12, 2022. Food is prepared and handed out to the clients as they drive through to pick up. Bill Starke will be asking for your assistance as the time nears. Each year the ladies have been making Valentine Bags to give to each client at our February Sharing Table. The gift bags will be added to the food that is given out that day. If you would like to participate, please bring commercially pre-packaged candies, crackers, snacks, etc. to fill the small bags. Leave your donations at church in the basket placed in the narthex. **Valentine goodies are needed before January 27.**

**We need the whole church to help us with this project!! THANK YOU!!!**



**THE GOOD SHEPHERD FACEBOOK PAGE:**

<https://www.facebook.com/GoodShepherdPC/>

**THE SHEPHERD OF JOPPA YOUTUBE PAGE:**

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCmWeD2EBpNUqSr1SI1Qgnhw>







# Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church (USA) CHRISTMAS DECORATING PARTY!

JANUARY 2022

YARN



Merry Christmas "thank you & bless you" to the congregation members who participated in the decorating of the sanctuary. It looks BEAUTIFUL...





## LIVE NATIVITY MUSINGS ...

As we gathered the evening of December 17, there was an air of anticipation. Would the costumes fit our characters? Would the animals arrive in time and the props be put in the right place? More importantly, would anyone understand the importance of why they were standing outside characterizing this birth story from the Bible? Conversely, would anyone from the neighborhood attend the first "Live Nativity" that was taking place at Good Shepherd? Our hearts and minds were racing.

As you can see from the enclosed pictures, it turned out to be a meaningful, magical, and spirit-filled night. Perhaps not all costumes were matched exactly as we had hoped for, maybe a few too many little angels were yawning as the evening wore on, and our CD music could not be heard for lack of speakers. But children from our pre-school were excited to take part and did a great job, we made some new friends from the Churchville 4-H Club, we joined voices together for at least an hour singing one carol after another (led by none other than Bill Starke!), and the light shone out from a beautiful backdrop built by kind Good Shepherd folk who donated time and materials to do so. Fourteen costumed characters gathered outdoors to be ambassadors in telling the Christmas story.

Our hearts overflow with love and gratitude to so many of you...for the hospitality of the Women's Association in providing hot chocolate and cookies; for the beautiful costumes made by our administrative assistant, Trista Canary; for the willingness of our own members to take part in an intergenerational event; for the creativity of "property elves" who designed the stable and manger. We were reminded in unusual ways of the exaltation of angels, the wonder of shepherds, the fierce science and generosity of magi, and the determination of Mary and Joseph to be open to God's call. We pray that as the year unfolds, we can preserve everything that the Christ child came to teach... compassion for all, acceptance, and joy in doing God's will.

Sue Thompson, Worship Committee Member and Deacon





**JANUARY 2022**

**YARN**

## LIVE NATIVITY CONTINUED



## MEN'S BREAKFAST

**Saturday, January 29<sup>th</sup> @ 9 am in the Upper Room**

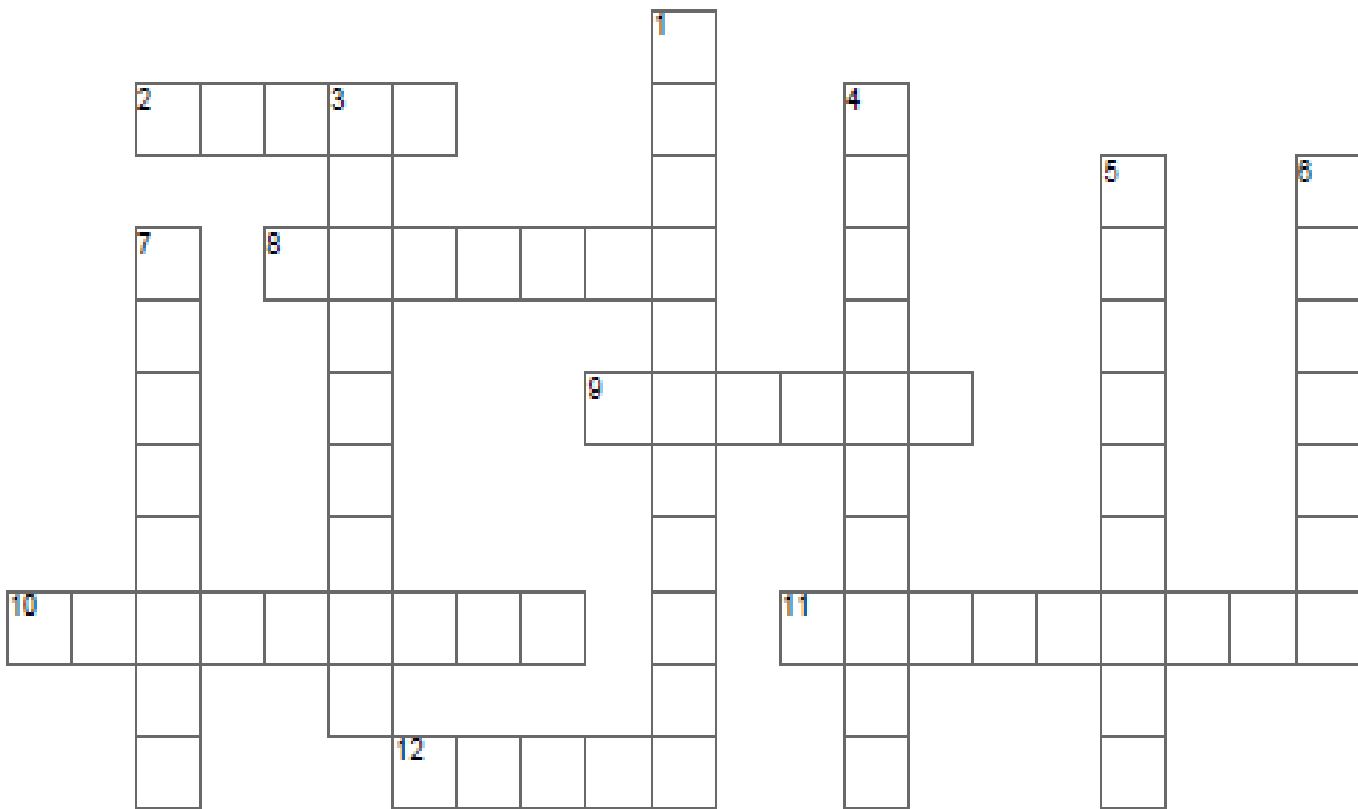
If you have any questions please feel free to reach out to:

Jim Petnic @ 410-657-9685 or  
Greg Donelson @ 518-410-9053



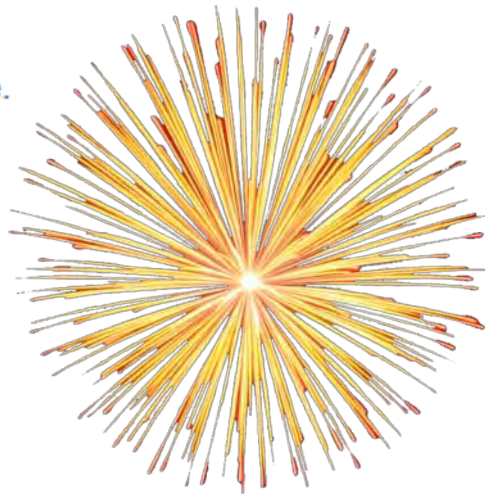


## NEW YEAR'S CROSSWORD PUZZLE



### ACROSS

2. A mechanical or electrical device for measuring time.
8. First month of the year.
9. All the descendants of a common ancestor.
10. the point in time at which something starts.
11. Low explosive pyrotechnic device used for entertainment purposes.
12. A social gathering of invited guests.



### DOWN

1. January 1st
3. A white sparkling wine associated with celebration.
4. A firm decision to do or not to do something.
5. Counting numerals in reverse order to zero.
6. A person one knows and with whom one has a bond of mutual affection.
7. Twelve o'clock at night.



**ANSWERS ON THE LAST PAGE!**





## WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION BRUNCH CHRISTMAS PARTY



The ladies of Good Shepherd had a wonderful afternoon of opening presents, great company, and many laughs!



## UN-DECORATING THE SANCTUARY PARTY

All congregation members are cordially invited to the UN-decorating party on Saturday, the 15th of January at 10:00AM. Coffee & donuts will be served! Even though we are "un-decorating" please bring that same holiday spirit that was evident during the decorating party.

We had such a great time!

## SPOTTED AROUND JOPPATOWNE

Though the winter weather makes getting around difficult, even stressful, and the clean up can really pose a task for us, there are still many wonders in the frigid and snow-dusted landscape if we allow time for it. We are so blessed in Maryland to have four seasons constantly ushering in change.

My little beauty took a break from her hard day of online learning to make a snowman for the families of Good Shepherd. Though today the snowman looks like a bump in the lawn, she had made the best of her short lunch period to enjoy and have some fun! In doing so, she managed to share a smile with others. It's the lessons we learn in the most unexpected ways I am blessed for.

-Trista





## REQUESTS FOR PRAYERS

Norma & Bill; Bill's Late sister, Pinkie Daniel's; Kathy's step daughter-in-law, Janet Bowman & her medical team; Linda Link's Late brother-in-law, Buddy, his wife Maria & their family; Kathy's family friend, Bill D.; Cindy PreVatte & her sister, Sandy Kling; Victorine "Fese" Elonge, her family & Late baby; Farrell's Mother, Sue Maddox; Millie Fike; Jerry & Elaine Tich; Kathy Young; Kathy's friend's granddaughter, Emma, her medical team & family, & her friend the Late Danny Gentry & his family; Kathy's neighbor, Debbie Ford, her son, Justin Brulinski, & her cousin, Debbie Nichols; Becky McKemy, her family, and her Late Stepfather & Late Uncle; Nancy McCaslin; Barry & Valerie Davis & family; Trista, Ethan & family; Cathy Cathcart's cousin, Cindy Pellegrino, her husband, Michael, medical team, and everyone at the Georgetown Hospital; Linda Link's cousin, Annie; Suzy & Carl Phillips, and her medical team; and Mary Margaret McClurg's cousins Stacey and Ernie.



If you or someone you know has a need and you would like to submit a prayer request, please reach out to our prayer team at:

[gsprayers@juno.com](mailto:gsprayers@juno.com)

## NEW YEAR'S CROSSWORD PUZZLE HINTS

FAMILY  
MIDNIGHT  
BEGINNING

JANUARY  
CHAMPAGNE  
FIREWORKS

CLOCK  
COUNTDOWN  
PARTY

RESOLUTION  
FRIENDS  
NEW YEARS DAY

## January Birthday's to Celebrate

2 Erin Knapp

8 Delores Barr

9 Matthew Ciccotelli

11 Seaver Shunk

14 Jeff Withrow

18 Suzanne Phillips

The Deacons would like the church family to know your important day! If we do not have yours in our file, please notify

Kelly Donelson @  
410-961-9275

21 Norma Webster

23 John Knapp

30 Betty Walko