

HAPPY NEW YEAR—2022



United Methodist
**Church of the
Good Shepherd**
"connecting to broken and hurting people"

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COGS Weekly News!

January 2, 2022

Sunday Worship Services
8:30—Contemporary Worship
9:45—Contemporary Worship
11:00—Traditional Worship
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.

Hello Church Family,

In this time of giving and celebration, we want to make sure we show appreciation to our staff members here at COGS. It has been a year of transition and growth for our church and our staff alike. We are so thankful and blessed to be led by such dedicated individuals who have gone above and beyond all year long to insure that we have a place to worship our Heavenly Father, to love and serve those in our community, and to strengthen and thrive in our faith. We will be collecting donations for an end of the year gift to help show our appreciation to our COGS leaders.

Donations for our Pastoral Gift will be collected until January 5th. You can drop your cash or check donation in the offering plate, mail them to the church office, or give them to Kathy Zavadak, Kim Mann or Dana Risser. ***Please make checks payable to Church of the Good Shepherd with "Pastoral Gift" in the memo line. Please make sure all donations are in an envelope labeled Pastoral Gift.***

Thank you and Merry Christmas,
COGS SPRC

New UMCOS Church Directories are now available. There is a cost of \$15.00 to help defray the cost of printing this directory. They can be found at the Welcome Center with an envelope for your donation.



WEB PAGE



DONATIONS

PLACE is back!

It has been a while since we have been able to offer a PLACE Event, and now we are excited to let you know that we have a date and a time! Our event will be on **Saturday, January 29 from 8:30-3:00.**

For those of you who are new to our church family, PLACE is a tool that we use to help people identify their spiritual gifts and discover their “place” to serve in ministry and in life. We would love to tell you more about it, so we invite you to stop by our PLACE table in the Gathering Area to learn more and to sign up, or you can contact Pastor Lisa or Kathy Zavadak for information.

There is no charge for the materials, and lunch is provided for a donation. All are welcome: those who have previously taken PLACE and wish to take a second look at their profile, as well as those who are new to our church or to PLACE. We are looking forward to a great time of sharing and growing together!

Fresh Start Emergency Homeless Shelter

The FRESH Start Emergency Homeless Shelter will be transitioning from a hotel to a permanent location on January 3rd. The new location is the EC Church on 6th and Chestnut Street in Lebanon City. Volunteers will be needed to run the shelter. The positions needed include: Welcome and Check-in, Safety Check, Refreshments, and Overnight Volunteers. The volunteers for the first three positions arrive at 8:00 PM and stay through 9:30 PM. The overnight Volunteers arrive at 9:00 PM and stay through 6:30 AM. Background checks and a brief training are required. The link to the training is <https://forms.gle/E7ScMRP4oURuPz7G9> or contact Lesvi Marrero at lesvi@lccm.us for more information on how you can get involved. This is a much needed outreach in our community—please consider prayerfully whether you might be called to serve the homeless in Lebanon through this ministry.



The weather is changing. Are you thinking Soup? So are we: The Super Soup Sale gets going today!

This is a shout out to all soup enthusiasts, ASP supporters and all church members! This month, back by popular demand, COGS In Motion will be offering super fresh home-made soups to raise funds for our ASP (**A**ppalachia **S**ervice **P**roject) mission trip scheduled in July. This is an effort everyone can support as we rely on super soup makers, seller and buyers for this major fundraiser of our church mission trips.

COGS in Motion will be looking for soup donations from super soup makers to be sold during a 4 week period in January. If you will provide us soup, we will provide the containers and customers eager for your creations! We are also recruiting super soup sales volunteers to staff our sales tables between and during services every Sunday in January. Sign-ups for volunteer super soup makers and sellers will occur on each of these Sundays: 2nd, 9th, 16th, and 23rd.

We are planning to have donations of super soups for sale January 9, 16, 23 and 30. Soup lovers can come early each Sunday for the best selection!

We may extend the Super Soup Sale into February based on weather, interest and supply. Will you join the ranks of Super Soup Sale supporters? Visit our Super Soup Sales table every Sunday in January to be involved in our success! You can also contact sales coordinators Mark Dobroski (twowheeltourist@me.com) or David Mann (dmann4@comcast.net) with your questions, for instructions, or to sign up. Thank you for supporting our mission!



**Celebrate
Recovery**
A CHRIST CENTERED Recovery Program

Join us at 7 pm on Wednesday, Jan. 5 to hear a message on what it really means to carry the message of Christ and our recovery in Him to others!

What is Celebrate Recovery?

CR is a biblically-based, 12-step ministry based on the actual words of Jesus Christ. It is a safe, confidential place at **Church of the Good Shepherd** where you can learn how to practically apply biblical truth and begin to address hurts, habits, and hang-ups that may be hindering your walk with God and others. By trusting in Christ completely and allowing the Holy Spirit to confront our deeply held beliefs and confront the sins and distorted thinking (a.k.a. lies), we can begin to find freedom in Christ.

We are going to spend each week looking at a hurt, habit or hang-up and how through Christ we can begin our recovery journey based on Biblical truth.

Lies

A lie is defined as an intentionally false statement. We see how quickly lies can move on social media, and how difficult it has become to distinguish the truth from lies in the digital age. Sure, maybe you don't fall for conspiracy theories, and maybe you're good at discerning what's true versus false in the news and you don't fall for the ideologies of the 21st century. But most of the lies we face don't make news headlines or end up on Twitter threads.

It's the woman in the church who is consumed with busyness and perfectionism because she carries wounds from childhood that taught her she *needs to be perfect to have peace*. It's the man who was berated by his father and comes to believe that *I am only as good as I am successful at work*. It's the teenager who spends 6 hours a day on social media comparing herself to others and comes to believe that she is *ugly and worthless*. It's the married couple that believes the other is *completely at fault for their misery* and each should be *able to meet every emotional, physical and spiritual need they have*. It's the person who withdraws from others when things get tough because they think it's *easier to avoid problems rather than facing them*.

There is not a soul in these walls or outside who are not living in, at some level, bondage to lies. Jesus called Satan 'the father of lies.' In the book 'Live No Lies' by John Mark Comer, he explains 'Lies, that come in the form of deceptive ideas, are the devil's primary method of enslaving human beings and entire human societies in a vicious cycle of ruin that leads us further and further east of Eden.'

Jesus is many things: our Savior and Lord. And he is also a teacher, a rabbi. What is a teacher? A truth-teller. Teachers teach truth and set us free so we can live in reality. When Jesus said 'you will know the truth, and the truth shall set you free,' he was also inferring that we are enslaved by lies. Jesus has come to liberate us with the weapon of truth.

Are you ready to identify and confront the lies that may be running your life?

We invite you on a journey to truth in a loving community. Join us every Wednesday at Celebrate Recovery.

Contact co-ministry leaders Jason - jgillhoolley@gmail.com or Andrea - agillhoolley717@gmail.com for more information.