

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

Weekly Update

*Our mission is to be more visible, to become more connected,
and to draw closer, with Christ as our center.*



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**
God's work. Our hands.

Wednesday, July 21, 2021



On Monday, July 19th, Lutheran World Relief arrived at Good Shepherd. Some WONDERFUL volunteers were on hand to load 111 boxes of quilts and personal care items on to the LWR truck. Our narthex is now cleared out and everything is headed to the LWR warehouse in Maryland for distribution to those in need in the U.S. and around the world.

Thank you to everyone that quilted, donated items, or their time!!! Our In Gathering was truly a success!





An update from the Worship and Music Committee:

The Worship and Music Committee continues to monitor Covid-19 conditions in our local area and guidance from the CDC and others as we attempt to balance the health and safety of our members with our desire to return to normal worship practices. In our meeting on July 12th, we reviewed the current situation and have decided that masks will now be optional during indoor worship for those who have been vaccinated. Anyone who wishes to sing the hymns will still be required to wear a mask while singing. Unvaccinated people are still required to wear masks throughout the service. We will continue to offer both prerecorded services and outdoor services as scheduled. As we gradually return to the way things were before the pandemic, we will continue to be vigilant for the health and safety of all, and if local conditions should change for the worse, we may need to put restrictions back in place. However, we hope that conditions will continue to improve and we will be able to return to regular programming in the Fall. Thank you for your patience and understanding through what has been a very challenging time.

There are several options for you to join us for online worship:

- 1) Go to the Good Shepherd website www.gslc-ct.org. Click on youtube on the menu under News & Events to be directed to our church's YouTube page.
- 2) Go to our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/Good-Shepherd-Lutheran-Church-220717937953573/> Scroll down until you see the post with the current "Church Service (date)" click on this to be directed to our church's YouTube page.
- 3) To find us directly on Youtube <https://www.youtube.com/> enter Good Shepherd Monroe CT in the search field and you will be directed to our page, then select the worship video you would like to see. Subscribe to our channel to make it even easier.

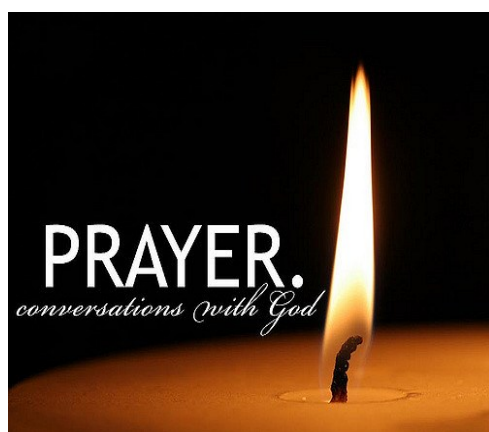
Whichever worship choice works best for you, we are delighted to have you worship with us!

Please keep our committee in your thoughts and prayers as we continue to provide guidance to the best of our abilities. We are delighted that our congregation has remained healthy through this crisis and look forward to the day when these considerations are no longer necessary.

Yours in Christ,
The Worship and Music Committee
Susan Chin, Chair

Summer Worship Schedule for in person worship: (subject to change)

July 25: 9:30 Worship OUTdoors
Aug 1: 9:30 Worship INdoors
Aug 8: 9:30 Worship OUTdoors
Aug 15: 9:30 Worship INdoors
Aug 22: 9:30 Worship OUTdoors
Aug 29: 9:30 Worship INdoors
Sept 5: 9:30 Worship OUTdoors



A Community of Prayer

For those in need of healing and comfort:

Members and Friends of the Congregation: Joan, Vic, Lauren, Ray, Tim, Marie, Audrey, Elizabeth, Gordon, Sarah, Miriam, Scarlet, Jason, Brian, David, Tricia, Cate, Cecilio, Donna, Anthony, Steve, the Wilk family, Linda, Todd, Noreen and family, Maureen, Lynn, Barbara, Scott, Johanna, Glen and Durbin.

Military (on active duty), Fire fighters, and Police: Ryan, Teddy, Tyler, Ben, Kenny, Brian, Bill, Ken, John, Glen, and Vic.

Front Line workers in the COVID-19 pandemic: Diane, Alicia, Brittany, Loretta, Jay, Alyssa, Monica, Rachel, June.

Pour out your Spirit on all people living with illness, as well as their loved ones and caregivers. Help them to know that you claim them as your own and deliver them from fear and pain; for the sake of Jesus Christ, our healer and Lord. Amen.

He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.

Psalm 147 vs. 3

Do you wonder how to put a loved one, friend, neighbor, or yourself on the prayer list?

Simply email the church office at office@gsllc-ct.org. If you would like a prayer card sent to your loved one, friend or neighbor, please include the full name and address. Prayer requests may also be made by phone (203-268-7596) and will be included by the church office.

For privacy, only the first name of each individual will be listed.

Do you have something you would like to discuss with Pastor Doug?

Should you be in need of pastoral care, please contact Pastor Doug Ryniewicz by cell phone (860-595-9560—text if you like!) or by his email (dearynos@gmail.com).

Financial News

As noted in the Treasurer's Report below, our offerings are down significantly. If you have a chance, please be sure to send your offering to the church, or Sunday's in person Worship Service. It is needed and would be deeply appreciated!

Treasurer's Report - June 2021

Contributions	June		Actual	YTD		Var	Expenses	June		Actual	YTD		Var
	Actual	Bdgt		Bdgt	Actual			Bdgt	Bdgt				
Pledged	13,201	13,862	89,451	92,172	(2,721)		Pastoral Ministries	8,327	8,458	49,765	50,750	(\$984)	
Unpledged	945	1,386	4,033	9,217	(5,184)		Mortgage	0	0	0	0	0	0
Prior Year	0	0	1,135	3,943	(2,808)		Music & Worship	3,435	3,579	21,028	20,847	182	
Loose Offerings	278	247	431	1,479	(1,048)		Benevolence	1,566	1,565	9,796	10,973	(1,177)	
Church School	0	19	500	113	388		Property	425	574	4,492	4,243	249	
Lent & Easter	310	0	725	1,841	(1,116)		Office	2,989	2,247	14,171	13,532	639	
Other	0	123	745	1,027	(282)		Utilities	264	355	3,687	7,749	(4,062)	
Thanksgiving	0	0	0	0	0		Christian Educ.	0	31	209	213	(4)	
Advent/Christmas	0	0	6	0	6		Interim Pastor	0	0	0	0	0	0
							Evangelism	41	41	227	99	127	
							Youth	0	0	0	0	0	0
							Stewardship	0	0	0	0	0	0
							Insurance	528	526	3,056	3,156	(99)	
							Altar Guild	0	37	43	225	(182)	
							Social Ministry	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	\$14,734	\$15,636	\$97,026	\$109,792	(\$12,766)		Total	17,575	17,412	106,473	111,786	(\$5,313)	
Variance	(\$902)		(\$12,766)				Variance	\$162		(\$5,313)			

	Actual	Bdgt	Actual	Bdgt	Var		Dec '20	June '21	Var
Surplus / (Deficit)	(\$2,841)	(\$1,776)	(\$9,447)	(\$1,994)	(\$7,453)	Cash/Investments*	126,523	45,091	(\$81,432)
Future Seminarian Fund	19,291					Mortgage	68,616	-	(\$68,616)
Capital Impr Fund	7,869					Campership	13,802	13,169	(\$634)
Bathroom/Sidewalk Repair	2,334					Equity Share	77,900	77,900	\$0
Parking Lot Fund	29,616					Memorial	11,300	15,010	\$3,709
Pastor's Discretionary Fund	875								
Music Supplies	1,034								

* Excludes Memorial, Exchange, Intern, Pastoral Housing and Campership Funds

June Summary

Contributions were \$902 unfavorable to Budget for the month

YTD Contributions are \$12,766 below Budget and are significantly behind prior years

\$97,026 June 2021

\$115,393 June 2020 (Excl \$10,000 from 2019)

\$113,662 June 2019

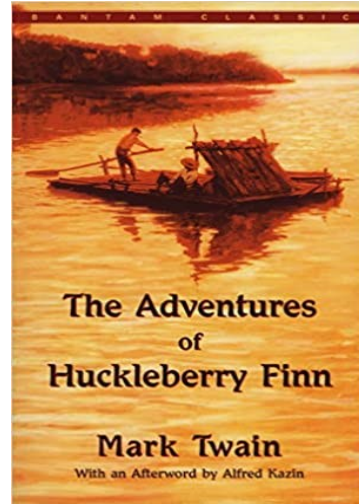
\$105,735 June 2018

Expenses for the month were \$162 above budget as we had two office administrators for 10 days

Deficit for the year is \$9,447, \$7,453 unfavorable to budget

*** Financial Statements are always Available Upon Request throughout the year. Please contact our Financial Secretary Roy Remlin and he will be more than happy to send you an updated report.**

Upcoming Events



The Good Shepherd Book Club's next meeting is on **August 3rd at 2:00 p.m.**

We will discuss "Huckleberry Finn" by Mark Twain. We will meet outdoors weather permitting, or indoors if it's preferable. We welcome new members!

On **September 7th at 2:00 p.m.**, we will discuss "The Four Winds", by Kristin Hannah. Please feel free to join us!



Reaching Out, Serving Others:

Food for Summerfield

There is an ongoing need for nutritious food for the kids at Summerfield. Protein is especially needed. GSLC Council has challenged the congregation to provide funds for the purchase of nutritious food. GSLC will match donations from members for up to \$250 per month. Pastor Gaston has told us that \$500 per month would meet their nutritious food needs. If you wish to donate please write a check to GSLC with the notation "Food For Summerfield", or place cash in the Summerfield box.



Can you help Proyecto Nueva Vida (PNV)?
PNV is our re-entry program which supports people returning to our communities after incarceration

We need:

Men's Boxers (L, XL, XXL)

Men's Tshirts (L, XL, XXL)

Men's SOCKS

Women's Underwear (Size M and up)

Bar Soaps

Toiletries for Men and Women

Razors



Please call Adilene at 203-334-1121 ext 13 or email adilenegarcia@ccgb.org if you can donate!

*Leveraging hope,
changing lives.*



Shepherd's Pantry

The need is great!

The Monroe Food Pantry provides emergency food assistance for needy individuals and families in Monroe. Their clients receive one week's worth of food per month and they serve more than 100 households per month. The Social Ministry and Community Outreach Committee invite you to contribute items to the Shepherd's Pantry located in the narthex. You may drop them off on Sunday mornings. The items are delivered to the Monroe Food Pantry once a month.

The Food Pantry is looking for following items to fill out their inventory:

- canned fruit - apple sauce, mandarin oranges, pineapple
- canned vegetables (regular and low sodium) - beets, creamed corn, French cut green beans, olives, potatoes, Sauerkraut, spinach, sweet potatoes
- canned vegetables (regular and low sodium) - cannellini, pinto
- baked beans
- sodium stock/broth (regular and low sodium) - chicken, beef, vegetable
- canned fish - solid white tuna, salmon
- canned tomatoes (regular and low sodium) - crushed, whole, puree, sauce, paste
- jarred pasta sauce
- Ramen - beef, shrimp
- baking goods - brownie mix, cake mix, pancake mix, sugar
- packaged foods - Hamburger Helper, instant potatoes, Knorr rice/pasta sides, Pasta-roni, Rice-a-roni, bread crumbs
- salad dressing
- condiments - BBQ sauce, cooking oil, ketchup, mustard, hot sauce
- pancake syrup
- crunchy peanut butter
- beverages - ground coffee, black tea, apple juice, cranberry juice, low sodium V8, Ensure, shelf stable milk
- household cleaning products
- personal hygiene products - tooth paste, deodorant, razors, bar soap, shampoo, conditioner, face wash
- paper towels

Thank you for your continued support!



Food Pantry Needs

Sunday, July 25, 2021 Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

Prayer of the Day: Gracious God, you have placed within the hearts of all your children a longing for your word and a hunger for your truth. Grant that we may know your Son to be the true bread of heaven and share this bread with all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

First Reading: 2 Kings 4:42-44

Psalm 145:10-18(16)

Second Reading: Ephesians 3:14-21

Gospel: John 6:1-21



EPHESIANS 3:14-21

For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

JOHN 6:1-21

Feeding the Five Thousand

After this Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias. A large crowd kept following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick. Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples. Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near. When he looked up and saw a large crowd coming towards him, Jesus said to Philip, 'Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?' He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do. Philip answered him, 'Six months' wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little.' One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to him, 'There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?' Jesus said, 'Make the people sit down.' Now there was a great deal of grass in the place; so they sat down, about five thousand in all. Then Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted. When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, 'Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost.' So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets. When the people saw the sign that he had done, they began to say, 'This is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world.'

When Jesus realized that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, he withdrew again to the mountain by himself.

Jesus Walks on the Water

When evening came, his disciples went down to the lake, got into a boat, and started across the lake to Capernaum. It was now dark, and Jesus had not yet come to them. The lake became rough because a strong wind was blowing. When they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the lake and coming near the boat, and they were terrified. But he said to them, 'It is I; do not be afraid.' Then they wanted to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat reached the land towards which they were going.