

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



Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Weekly Update **Wednesday, May 11, 2022**

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



Two pieces of wisdom for you this week:

“Hold everything in your hands lightly, or it will hurt when God pries your fingers open.”

Corrie Ten Boom

If a Lama with one L is a holy man in Tibet and a Llama with two L's is a beast of burden, what is a three L Lama?...

A big fire in Boston.

Have a good week!

**LV
PD**



Worship Information -

We currently have two regular in person Worship Services per week. They are held on Sundays at 8am and 10:30am. (On June 12th, we will go to our Summer schedule, which will be one service at 9:30am.)

Hymnals are available for use. Please note that if you are uncomfortable using the hymnals, there will be a limited number of freshly copied "Hymn Packets" available upon request at each service.

Please continue to read Friday's weekly "Worship E-mail", or check our Facebook Page for any updates / changes.

*** Masks are no longer required at any time ***

If you prefer to join us for prerecorded online worship instead, you can:

1) Go to the Good Shepherd website www.gslc-ct.org. Under "News & Events", click on youtube 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 it 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. From there, 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!

Prayer List -

Please keep the following people in your thoughts and prayers:

Audrey, Miriam, Beverly, Doree, Amy, Scarlet, Ryan, Sharon & Rosemary.



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. You can reach him by text, or phone at: 860-595-9560. His email is: dearynos@gmail.com

Celebration Of Life Service -

Sadly, one of our members, Bill Mc Donough's, father has passed away. On May 17th at 4pm, a Celebration Of Life Service will be held for him at Good Shepherd. All are welcome to attend. May Mr. William Joseph Mc Donough rest in peace.



Quilt Raffle -

Here's a win/win opportunity: Help defray the costs of fabric, batting and shipping, while taking a chance to win a quilt of your choice.

Good Shepherd's quilting ministry, led by our capable and talented Ellie Noll, has for many years been sending quilts worldwide through Lutheran World Relief to help warm and comfort those in need. The quilts, made throughout the year by many helpful and willing hands, will be blessed at the church on June 12th. The winner of the raffle will be drawn at that time and will have the pleasure of having "the pick of the litter". Please see Eileen Holleran to purchase your tickets. They cost \$2 for 1 ticket, \$5 for 3 tickets, or \$10 for 7 tickets. They will also be available at the in-person worship services from May 15th, until June 12th.



The Good Shepherd Foundation Comes to Visit -

On May 22nd, Rev. Bob McGurn and his wife, Linda McGurn, will pay us a visit and attend our 10:30am service. While here, they will also update us and share news about the clinic in Haiti. We hope you can make it on this date to hear some great news!





5/16/22 - Church Council Meeting.

5/22/22 - Sunday School & Confirmation classes at 9:15am. Also, the McGurns of The Good Shepherd Foundation will speak at the 10:30am service.

5/30/22 - Memorial Day

6/12/22 - Summer schedule begins (only 9:30am service) and the Blessing of the Quilts will take place.

6/18/22 - We will sponsor another Red Cross Blood Drive. Please sign up to donate and encourage others to do the same!

*** Choir practice** - every Sunday at 9:30am.

*** Book Club** - There will not be a meeting in June, sorry!

*** Shepherd's Flock Quilters** - We generally meet at 10am each Monday, Wednesday and Saturday. * Please contact Barbara Abraham by phone, or text at: 203-305-0321 if you wish to come on a Monday morning. If you'd like to join on a Wednesday, contact Ellie Noll at: 203-888-7009, or Eileen Holleran at: 203-426-0005. If you prefer to quilt on a Saturday, please text Donna Duessel at: 203-482-5598. Anyone is welcome!



PLEASE SAVE THE DATE!

Church Council has announced that our Annual Church Picnic and Outdoor Worship Service will be held at Wolfe Park in Monroe. The date is Sunday, June 26th. More details to follow, but please mark your calendars as we would love to see you there!



Quilting News --

1. The Lutheran World Relief truck is coming the last week in June or first week in July. Other quilt groups will be bringing boxed quilts and health kits to us.
2. We will begin selling raffle tickets for the quilt of your choice from May 15 to June 12.
3. Blessing of the quilts will happen on June 12, when church will be at 9:30 a.m.
4. We expect to have about 100 quilts and will be sending 10 of them to Paducah, KY, for the House in a Box program for victims of the December tornado.
5. If you have boxes for us to use in packing the quilts, please put them in the back of Gibiser Hall in early June.





**LUTHERAN
WORLD RELIEF**

Thank You!

April 21, 2022

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
466 Elm St
Monroe, CT 06468-2202

Dear Good Shepherd Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your generous \$615.00 emergency gift to help the people of Ukraine, who are enduring unimaginable hardship and suffering. Please continue to lift them up in your prayers.

Your gift is being put to use immediately to deliver emergency food, shelter, Personal Care Kits, Baby Care Kits, medicines and other critically needed items for children and their families who are trying to survive the horrifying fighting ... or are being forced to flee their homeland with a few meager belongings.

Your willingness to share your blessings during a global crisis like this is a godsend to your neighbors in Ukraine who are hurting. They can feel your love and are deeply grateful to know you are keeping them in your thoughts and prayers.

If you have any questions regarding your donation, please feel free to reach out to us anytime at 800 597 5972 or via email at lwr@lwr.org. You'll also find inspiring stories of the life-changing work you make possible at lwr.org. And if you haven't already, be sure to subscribe to our e-newsletter to receive bi-weekly updates on the impact of your generosity.

Thank you again, and God bless you!

Warm Regards,

Ambassador Daniel V. Speckhard (ret.)
President and CEO

As required by the IRS, this receipt confirms that Lutheran World Relief has given you no goods or services in return for your charitable contribution of \$615.00.

Please retain this letter for tax purposes



**LUTHERAN
WORLD RELIEF**

Thank You!

April 22, 2022

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
466 Elm St
Monroe, CT 06468-2202

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your generous \$600.00 emergency gift to help the people of Ukraine, who are enduring unimaginable hardship and suffering. Please continue to lift them up in your prayers.

Your gift is being put to use immediately to deliver emergency food, shelter, Personal Care Kits, Baby Care Kits, medicines and other critically needed items for children and their families who are trying to survive the horrifying fighting ... or are being forced to flee their homeland with a few meager belongings.

Your willingness to share your blessings during a global crisis like this is a godsend to your neighbors in Ukraine who are hurting. They can feel your love and are deeply grateful to know you are keeping them in your thoughts and prayers.

If you have any questions regarding your donation, please feel free to reach out to us anytime at 800 597 5972 or via email at lwr@lwr.org. You'll also find inspiring stories of the life-changing work you make possible at lwr.org. And if you haven't already, be sure to subscribe to our e-newsletter to receive bi-weekly updates on the impact of your generosity.

Thank you again, and God bless you!

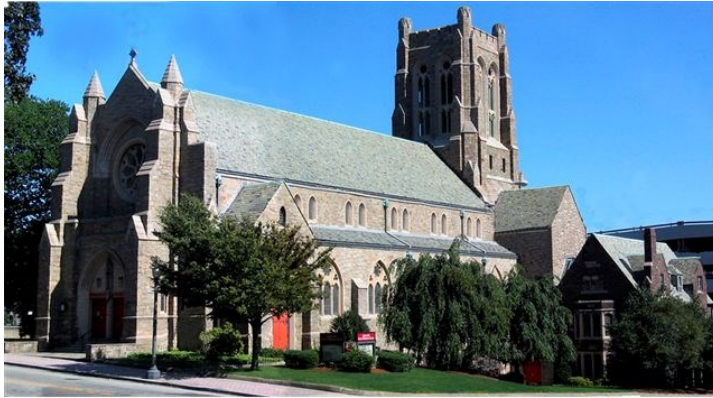
Warm Regards,

Ambassador Daniel V. Speckhard
President and CEO

As required by the IRS, this receipt confirms that Lutheran World Relief has given you no goods or services in return for your charitable contribution of \$600.00.

Please retain this letter for tax purposes

Golden Hill Community Supper -



On June 1st, Good Shepherd will help serve the needy at the Golden Hill Community Supper. Please reach out to Peg Wesche to join the carpool, or get more information! Signups are posted on the bulletin board in the narthex.

Wednesday, May 11

Acts 11:1-18

At the Spirit's pace

Who was I that I could hinder God? (v. 17)

I've visited Times Square in New York City a handful of times in my life. I love the lights. I hate the crowds. Specifically, I don't like being blocked in and prevented from walking at my own pace.

The book of Acts shows us again and again that the Spirit of God travels at its own pace and is not hindered by those who would try to get in the way. In today's reading the Spirit has fallen upon people outside what were usually thought to be the boundaries of God's covenant with Abraham and Sarah. Peter is challenged to see where the Spirit is moving. Through prayer he discerns that his job is to get out of the way, to let the Spirit lead, and to follow where the Spirit goes. "Who was I that I could hinder God?" he asks, when other apostles and believers question his actions.

Where do you see the Spirit on the move? What might be its destination? What would happen if you set aside your own plans where they differ from those of the Holy Spirit and followed the Spirit's lead?

**Restless Spirit, move through and around us.
Set the pace and help us follow. Amen.**

*Prayer concern: People who are in a time
of transition*

Psalms 100; Jeremiah 50:17-20; John 10:31-42

RECYCLE THAT BICYCLE!



Have a bicycle you aren't using anymore?

Golden Hill United Methodist Church in Bridgeport needs **donations of bikes** for their annual **Used Bike Giveaway** on June 4, 2022 for families in need.

- Need children's, youth and adult bikes
- Bikes should be in decent shape (perhaps in need of a few **minor** repairs)
- Bikes can be delivered to Golden Hill UMC, 210 Elm St., Bridgeport, Tuesday-Friday 9:30am-12pm. Other times can be arranged if needed.
- A pick up is possible at a mutually agreeable time
- Need bike donations by **May 21** to allow time for repairs

To arrange to give a bike donation, please contact Phyllis Machledt at pmachledt@gmail.com or Golden Hill UMC (203-336-0152, Tues-Fri.) or email: office@goldenhill.org.

Part of the UMC Cooperative Parish Program

* If you live in Monroe, Ellsworth Philbrick has volunteered to pick up any old bikes, help tune them up and deliver them to Golden Hill for us. Ellsworth also works with the Boy Scouts that meet at GSLC. He stated he would love to help and can be reached at: 203-581-0768. If you do not live in Monroe, but can get your bike to GSLC, Ellsworth can pick it up here. A big thanks to Ellsworth and anyone that can donate!

Shepherd's Pantry -

The Monroe Food Pantry provides emergency food assistance for over 100 needy individuals and families in Monroe each 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 during office hours, or on Sunday mornings. The items are delivered to the Monroe Food Pantry once a month.

In May, the Food Pantry can use the following items:

Cooking oil
Egg noodles
Sugar
Flour
Snacks (chips/cookies/crackers/nuts)
Jarred pasta sauce
Canned fruit (applesauce, pineapple, peaches, mandarin oranges)
Solid white tuna
Canned beans (pinto, black, chickpeas, cannellini, kidney)
Brownie mix
Sugar
Flour
Corn muffin mix
Ketchup/mustard/mayo/bbq sauce
Salad dressing (Balsamic/blue cheese/French/Italian/ranch/Thousand Island)
Crunchy peanut butter
Grape and strawberry jelly
Instant potatoes
Bread crumbs (Italian and regular)
Ramen (chicken/beef/shrimp)
Baked beans
Progresso soups (vegetable/Clam Chowder/lentil/split pea)
Chicken and beef broth
Coffee (regular and decaf)
Tea (regular and decaf)
Juice (apple/cranberry/V-8)



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 out to "Good Shepherd Lutheran Church" with the notation, "Food For Summerfield". Thank you!

Financial Statements -

New Financial Statements are available on the wood table in the narthex. They cover the period through 4/30/22. If you can not get to Church and need yours mailed, please contact the office.

VANCO - ELCA PREFERRED ONLINE GIVING PLATFORM -



Please feel free to try our online giving platform, Vanco. Vanco is an ELCA preferred vendor, that gives you the option of using their free mobile app to make donating to Good Shepherd easy and contactless. Simply download the Vanco Mobile App, select "Good Shepherd Lutheran Church - Monroe" and follow the prompts to donate.

If you are hesitant to download the app, just go to our website, www.gslc-ct.org, scroll down to the Vanco link, click and donate.

The traditional ways of giving, like bringing, or mailing envelopes to Church still stand. Vanco is just another way to make giving easy. If you do choose to use Vanco for online giving, please know that the Church will incur a fee per transaction. However, you can offset this cost by selecting the "cover processing fees" option at checkout.

If you are interested, but have questions, please feel free to contact Stephanie in the office!

Sunday, May 15, 2022 - Fifth Sunday of Easter

Prayer of the Day: O Lord God, you teach us that without love, our actions gain nothing. Pour into our hearts your most excellent gift of love, that, made alive by your Spirit, we may know goodness and peace, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Acts 11:1-18

Psalms 148 (13)

Revelation 21:1-6

John 13:31-35



Revelation 21:1-6

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them as their God; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away." And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.

John 13:31-35

When he had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."