



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.



Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Weekly Update Wednesday, August 31, 2022

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



Pastor Daniel Erlander died this week. This drawing by Dan; Pastor, brilliant theologian and artist, is in beloved and widely used books in our ELCA. When I was tense and nervous leaving the Roman Catholic Church, my future Pastor gave me heavy intellectual books to read. These books helped, but they were very academic and technical. Then he gave me Erlander's little books. The drawings were beautiful, simple, loving, and gentle. After reading tomes on eschatological prolepsis, I would get crayons and color in the Erlander books. They went to the heart and childlike parts and they eased my frontal cortex while also teaching me. In seminary, Pastor Dan and I exchanged letters and he sent me a beautiful drawing he had made for me.

Who are the heroes and sheroes who brought a deeper understanding of your faith? Write them down. Tell them. Become one for someone else!

May Dan Erlander have joy and peace in Resurrection! Thank you, Dan!

LV,
PD



Worship Information -

Good Shepherd is currently on "Summer schedule". This means that one service is held every Sunday at 9:30am. Choir practice is at 8:45am. * Please see next page for new schedule beginning September 11th.

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:

Helen, Cliff Jr., Audrey, Miriam, Todd, Nicolette, Mike's family, Kelly, Sue, Andrea, A, Robert, Kathy, Beverly, Doree, Amy, Mark, 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



9/5/22 - Labor Day. NO QUILTING and the GSLC office will be closed.

9/6/22 - Book Club at 2pm. We will discuss "People We Meet On Vacation", by Emily Henry. Please join us!

9/11/22 - Regular Worship schedule starts back up. There will be two services. Please choose from the 8am, or 10:30am service.

9/11/22 - Sunday School and Confirmation classes will begin for the Fall. They will be held at 9:15am on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month.

* **Choir practice** - Currently held every Sunday at 8:45am. Starting 9/11/22, practice will be at 9:30am.

* **Shepherd's Flock Quilters** - 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!

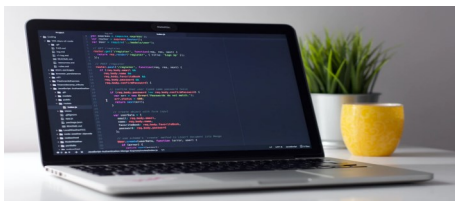
PLEASE HELP! VOLUNTEER WEBMASTER WANTED -



If you have experience with web development and JavaScript, Good Shepherd can certainly use your help!

Technology is moving fast and we need someone that can ensure our webpage is up to speed.

If interested, please contact Stephanie for more information at: office@gslc-ct.org Thank you!



THE GOOD SHEPHERD FOUNDATION

1127 Royal Palm Beach Blvd.
Royal Palm Beach, FL 33411

www.thegoodshepherdfoundation.org



August 20, 2022

The Rev. Douglas Ryniewicz
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
466 Elm Street
Monroe, CT 06468

Dear Pastor Ryniewicz and the People of Good Shepherd,

We again have the joy of thanking you for the additional gift of \$51.43 sent recently. Your partnership in our medical and water mission to the people of Haiti is beyond generous. We continue to be touched by your faithfulness in caring for those in need as our Lord did.

As you know, we began a daily clinic onsite on March 23rd and it is going wonderfully well. Our RN is seeing over 100 people each week and we are already talking about increasing staff there to meet the needs of the patients. We are providing home PT to 2 stroke patients, sent a young girl to the hospital for appendicitis, and handling many sutures daily. We are holding clinics, 5 days/week with Oscar also on call and an MD on call for physician referral.

This is nothing short of fantastic! Our next goal is to raise enough funding to be able to meet the increased needs we see for medical care and increased medications. We are currently in the process of identifying more staff and more funding to help with the larger-than-anticipated patient load. We believe this to be a good problem!

Believe it or not, the Rotary Grant has been formally approved for one well and the process is expected to start on September 1st. We are still investigating a latrine option through another Rotary Grant sponsored by Kings Bay Rotary. We will keep you informed as we go along regarding safe water and clinic options.

All of this is nothing short of amazing and we thank you and your faithful generosity, along with the generous gifts of so many of God's people. We pray in thanksgiving for your support and ask your prayers as we continue to grow our medical care in this long forgotten part of Haiti. We will continue to keep you in the loop with our crazy water sanitation situation.

Wishing you all God's blessings, as we walk with and serve the risen Christ!

With gratitude,

Michele Sidney

Michele Sidney, President

Leide & Bob

The Rev. & Mrs. Robert P. McGurn

*One miracle after
another! Your
support makes it so!
L*

**PLEASE SUPPORT THE MONROE FOOD PANTRY BY
BEING A VENDOR, OR A CUSTOMER...**

1st Annual Shop 'N Eat Flea Market & Food Truck Festival

Sponsored by the Monroe Food Pantry



September 25th 10 AM – 3 PM

*****Rain or Shine***

at Monroe's Masuk High School

Admission: \$2/Car

Cost for flea market vendors only \$25

Featured Food Truck Vendors:

Backwoods Dawgz & Catering

The Coop

Szabo's Seafood

*If you are interested in being a food truck vendor or flea market vendor,
email Julie Banks at jbanks@monroect.org.*

Applications are available on the Monroe Food Pantry's Facebook page



THE CENTER

Celebrating Life's Dimensions



235 Cutlers Farm Road | Monroe, CT 06468 | (203) 452-2815 | www.monroect.org

OFFERINGS FROM THE MONROE SENIOR CENTER -



Financial Scams & Fraud Education *Tuesday, September 20 at 11:00 am*



Too often people fall victim to scammers! Take charge by learning the current scams and crimes against seniors. This program will describe how you can be alerted to, and ways to prevent, being exposed to various deceptive practices.

Join your Monroe TRIAD as they host this SCAM education and prevention program featuring our Monroe Police Department, AARP's Fraud Unit and staff from Spadaccino's Funeral Home as they present current trends by scammers.

Snacks and beverages will be offered! Sign up in the lobby by September 6.

What happens if we do nothing?? Not having a life plan and an appropriate estate plan to meet your family's and your current needs is a decision in and of itself – *Let's Talk!*

Attorney Lyn Elovson of the firm Elovson and Tenore in Fairfield will present an open round-table discussion regarding the identification of potential future crises in your life and the planning needed to minimize the effects on you and your family on **Wednesday, September 14, at 4:30 p.m.** Attorney Elovson will review basic legal documents, financial discussion for titling/access to assets, preservation of assets, long term care needs, death of a spouse, etc. Attendees can bring their questions and concerns to the table for a mutually beneficial discussion.

Please register for this program.

THE UPPER ROOM

WED
AUG 31
2022

TRUE IDENTITY

READ 1 John 3:1-3

See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are!

— 1 John 3:1 (NIV)

When I was in college, I could tell which of the many strangers on a bus were fellow students. There was something familiar and similar among those of us who were studying at the same university. Maybe it was the way we dressed or

talked or walked. I am not sure what it was, but it was perceptible.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY
In Christ, my identity is a beloved child of God.

I had a similar experience years later, when I was in another country and

in a crowd of people of a different culture and nationality. While I was walking alone inside a mall, a woman behind me comfortably talked with me in my dialect. Without any introduction, she immediately knew we were from the same country and that we spoke the same language. Something about my Filipino identity was familiar to her.

The same is true with our identity in Jesus Christ. Because of God's love for us, God redeemed us and brought us into relationship with God. Through Christ, we are children of God. When we embrace this identity and live according to Jesus' teachings, others will see our good works and glorify our Father in heaven (see Matt. 5:16).

Prayer: Heavenly Father, may we always be reminded of your love so we may live out our true identity in Christ. May we honor you all the days of our lives. Amen.

Lei Cao Garcia-Bote (Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia)

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.

* A Message from Monroe Food Pantry on September Needs -

We will soon begin September shopping for our clients. Please see below and note what the pantry is currently in need of. We are completely out of, or extremely low on, the items that have a star next to them. Thanks again for your continued support!

- Juice (apple, cranberry, etc.)*
- Condiments (especially mayo*)
- Canned Vegetables
- Grape Jelly, Strawberry Jam*
- Hamburger Helper, Knorr Pasta/Rice Sides, Macaroni & Cheese
- Egg Noodles*
- White rice*
- Oatmeal (instant or original, flavored, etc.)*
- Breadcrumbs
- Beef or shrimp ramen*
- Canned Tomatoes (crushed, whole, diced, stewed, paste)
- Chicken, Beef, or Vegetable Broth
- Cooking Oil*
- Canned Fruit (regular or low sugar - preferably in juice)
- Canned Beans, especially baked
- Baking Supplies - including sugar & flour *
- Syrup (regular or sugar free)
- Pancake Mix*
- Jarred Pasta Sauce
- Salad Dressing (any flavor)
- Ground Coffee*, Tea (regular, decaf), Instant Coffee & Hot Chocolate
- Canned Soup
- Ensure
- Snack Items
- **Personal hygiene products – we particularly low on bar soap, toothpaste, deodorant, shampoo/conditioner**
- Household cleaning supplies



Ways to Help Summerfield -

Snacks for Summerfield are needed! We are collecting snacks for the youth of Summerfield. If you would like to donate, please add your snack items to the marked blue bin in the narthex.



Also, there is an ongoing need for nutritious food/protein for the kids of Summerfield. GSLC Council has challenged the congregation to provide funds for the purchase of nutritious food. GSLC will match donations from members 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!

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, September 4, 2022 - Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Prayer of the Day: Direct us, O Lord God, in all our doings with your continual help, that in all our works, begun, continued, and ended in you, we may glorify your holy name; and finally, by your mercy, bring us to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Deuteronomy 30:15-20

Psalms 1 (3)

Philemon 1-21

Luke 14:25-33



Philemon 1-21

Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother, To Philemon our dear friend and co-worker, to Apphia our sister, to Archippus our fellow soldier, and to the church in your house: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. When I remember you in my prayers, I always thank my God because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith toward the Lord Jesus. I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective when you perceive all the good that we may do for Christ. I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother. For this reason, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do your duty, yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love—and I, Paul, do this as an old man, and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus. I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment. Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful both to you and to me. I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. I wanted to keep him with me, so that he might be of service to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel; but I preferred to do nothing without your consent, in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced. Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back forever, no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a beloved brother—especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord. So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. If he has wronged you in any way, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self. Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say.

Luke 14:25-33

Now large crowds were traveling with him; and he turned and said to them, "Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, saying, 'This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.' Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? If he cannot, then, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions.