



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



Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Weekly Update Wednesday, March 16, 2022

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

*** "PRETZEL SUNDAY"
IS THIS WEEKEND!**



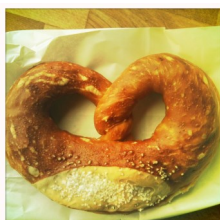
Please join us, this Sunday, March 20th, for our famous "PRETZEL SUNDAY!"

All Sunday School children, Confirmation students and all GSLC members are invited to help bake pretzels. Please arrive at 9:30am to make and eat this traditional Lenten food!

PRETZEL PRAYER

Lord, bless these breads which are to remind us that Lent is a special season of repentance and prayer. For this very reason, the early Christians started the custom of making these breads in the form of arms crossed in prayer. In this way they kept the holy purpose of Lent alive in their hearts and increased their love of Christ.

We pray that we, too, may be reminded by the daily sight of these pretzels to observe the holy season of Lent with true devotion and great spiritual fruit. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.





Worship Information -

We have two regular in person Worship Services per week. They are held on Sundays at 8am and 10:30am.

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 now mandatory for singing hymns, but optional otherwise.**



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, 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

COVENANT TO CARE EASTER BASKETS -



Name tags for Easter baskets are attached to a white clipboard on the table in the narthex. (Look for the colorful Easter Bunny) Please PRINT your name and phone number on the list next to the child's name, and attach the corresponding gift tag to the basket you wish to donate.

Baskets are due on Palm Sunday, April 10. Thank you!



**American
Red Cross**

Together, we can save a life



Blood Drive

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

Held in the Church Hall
466 Elm Street
Monroe, CT 06468

**Saturday, March 26, 2022
7:45 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.**

Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or
visit RedCrossBlood.org and
enter: GoodShepherd to schedule an appointment.



Streamline your donation experience and save up to 15 minutes by visiting RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass to complete your pre-donation reading and health history questions on the day of your appointment.





3/16/22 - Lenten Zoom Bible Study at 7pm.

3/20/22 - "Pretzel Sunday" at 9:30am. Everyone is welcome!

3/23/22 - Lenten Zoom Bible Study at 7pm.

3/26/22 - GSLC Blood Drive

3/27/22 - Sunday School & Confirmation classes held at 9:15am.

3/30/22 - Last Lenten Zoom Bible Study at 7pm.

4/5/22 - Book Club at 2pm. The selection is, "Finding Chika", by Mitch Albom.

4/10/22 - Palm Sunday

4/14/22 - Maundy Thursday

4/15/22 - Good Friday

4/10/22 - Sunday School & Confirmation classes held at 9:15am.

4/10/22 - Covenant To Care Easter Baskets are due.

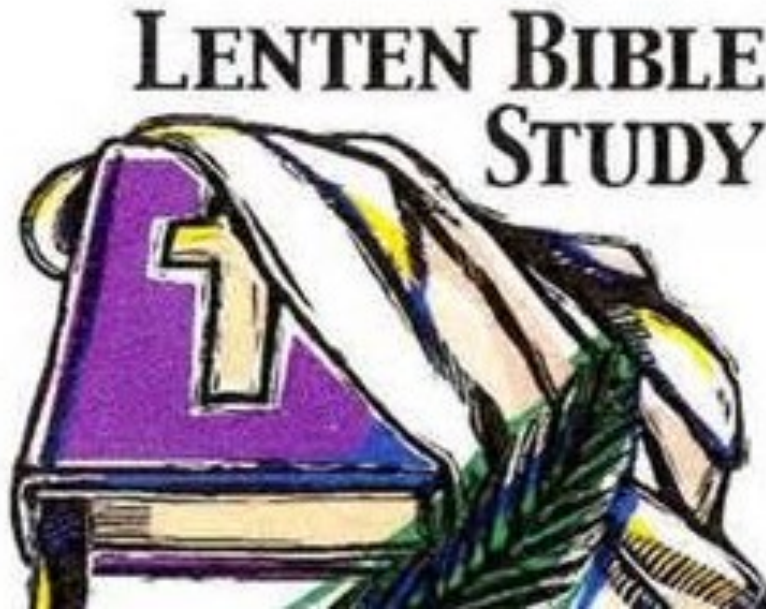
4/17/22 - Easter

4/24/22 - Sunday School & Confirmation classes held at 9:15am.

*** Choir practice will be every Sunday at 9:45am.**

*** 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!

*** Lenten Bible Study -**



Please join us on Wednesday, 3/16/22, at 7pm to discuss "The Parables Of Jesus"!

The group will be led by Pastor Doug and since it will take place on Zoom, we hope to see a lot of familiar faces! Please join us again on March 23rd and 30th!

Topic: GSL Lenten Bible Study

Time: This is a recurring meeting Meet anytime

*** PLEASE CHECK OUR PRIVATE FACEBOOK PAGE, CALL THE OFFICE, OR SEE YOUR E-MAIL NEWSLETTER FOR ZOOM LINK.**

Hello GSLC Members and Friends,

We are heartbroken for Ukraine and would love to help in any way possible.
Luckily, we've received tremendous news from Lutheran World Relief:

For a short period, Nelsonville Lutheran Church in Wisconsin will double all gifts from congregations – THE MATCH AMOUNT IS NOW UP TO \$258,000 – for our neighbors suffering in the Ukraine crisis. Right now, Lutheran World Relief teams are working with partners in and around Ukraine. Your congregation's gift will deliver urgent support and care, like: food, shelter and other critically needed items; Mission Quilts and Kits for families who fled their homes; and medicine and supplies for clinics.

Our GSLC quilters have already donated \$500 that was in the quilting account, which will be doubled to \$1000. To further take advantage of this wonderful matching gift program, GSLC has been collecting funds for Ukraine. Thank you to all that have already donated! If you haven't contributed yet, but are willing and able, **the deadline for the match has been extended.** Please mail, or bring your donation to GSLC by 4/10/22 with a notation to send it to LWR/Ukraine. **You can also give online by typing lwr.org/match into your web browser.** If you can't donate, please help by spreading the word!

Thank you!!!

A graphic with a blue and green background. At the top, it says "CRISIS IN UKRAINE" in large white letters. Below that, in yellow, "YOUR CHURCH'S GIFT WILL BE MATCHED UP TO". Then, in large white letters, "\$258,000". Below that, in white, "GIVE NOW AT LWR.ORG/MATCH". At the bottom, there is a logo for Lutheran World Relief, which consists of three interlocking circles, and the text "LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF" to its right.

CRISIS IN UKRAINE
YOUR CHURCH'S GIFT WILL BE MATCHED UP TO \$258,000
GIVE NOW AT LWR.ORG/MATCH
LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF



CRISIS IN UKRAINE **YOUR GIFT WILL BE DOUBLED**

Thanks to the generosity of Nelsonville Lutheran Church and Peace Lutheran Church in Amherst, WI — both of the Tomorrow River Lutheran Parish — all congregational gifts given through Lutheran World Relief will be doubled — up to \$258,000!

Your love will provide food, shelter and emergency funds for refugees impacted by the Ukraine crisis. Lutheran World Relief expects that their initial response will also include supporting critical health needs through the provision of medical supplies or support for emergency medical services. **And thanks to the generosity of Lutheran congregations across the country, LWR will be air-lifting Mission Quilts and Personal Care Kits already pre-positioned in their Dubai warehouse.** These urgently needed supplies will reach Ukrainian families who have fled for safety.

You can give directly through Lutheran World Relief at lwr.org/match or by mailing to Lutheran World Relief, PO Box 17061, Baltimore, MD 21297-1061. Please write "Ukraine Match" in the memo line. Gifts can also be made through our congregation. Write "Ukraine Match" in the memo line and we will send one check from the church immediately following Easter Sunday.

Until your love reaches every neighbor.

The Good Shepherd Foundation:

An unexpected beginning for a miracle clinic in Haiti!



Who would have thought that a desperately needed health clinic in the remote regions of Haiti would have had its beginning at a religious retreat center at Medjugorji, Bosnia-Herzegovina, a revered site of mystical apparitions of the Virgin Mary? The history of the clinic can only be described as a Spirit-led sequence of events:

- * American nurse, Michelle, formerly of Haiti, goes on a pilgrimage to Medjugorji for spiritual guidance in hope of starting a desperately needed clinic in her homeland.
- * Pastor Bob McGurn and wife, Linda, travel to Medjugorji at the same time looking for discernment and spiritual guidance with Bob's approaching retirement.
- * Linda, as a recently retired professional fund raiser for multiple hospitals and private schools, was looking for discernment in her next "vocation" in life.
- * Michelle is looking for a fundraiser.
- * BOOM! An instant and dramatic connection was made; bringing together a Florida nurse, and a clergy couple from Connecticut for the soon to be shared mission of bringing healthcare and clean water to an impoverished community in Haiti. It certainly was the work of the Holy Spirit then and that work only continues to grow and expand, thanks to dedicated leadership, a faithful staff, prayer and generous support from all of you!

As we at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church have made The Good Shepherd Foundation our focus of support during our Lenten journey for many years, we are continuing that support this year with the goal of raising \$4,000. As the cost of care has risen due to complex and sometimes dangerous circumstances, our donations are needed more than ever to continue this vital and life-giving ministry. This may seem an ambitious goal, but in reality, is only half of the \$8,000 we were able to raise last year! Please continue your support as we go forward during this season of Lent. We ARE helping to make miracles continue to happen in Haiti!!

Watch for more information to come in future newsletters about the new and exciting developments at the clinic. The miracles continue!

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.

**** THE MONROE FOOD PANTRY NO LONGER ACCEPTS COUPONS ****

PLEASE DO NOT DROP COUPONS OFF AT GSLC. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HELP THE FOOD PANTRY, PLEASE SEE THE MONTHLY LIST OF NEEDS.

THANK YOU!!!

MARCH FOOD PANTRY NEEDS -

Canned fruit: apple sauce, mandarin oranges, pineapple, peaches

Canned meat: Solid White Tuna, Spam, Sardines

Canned vegetables: beets, olives, sauerkraut

Baking Goods: pancake mix, brownie mix, sugar, flour, corn muffin mix

Condiments: cooking oil, brown or yellow mustard, mayo, ketchup

Salad Dressing: Italian, Balsamic, Blue Cheese, French, Thousand Island, Ranch

Staples: Jelly (strawberry or grape), Peanut Butter (crunchy)

Low-sodium Progresso soups: (vegetable/split pea/minestrone/clam chowder/tomato/bean/beef/sausage)

Snacks - any kind but people seem to like breakfast bars, chips, crackers, popcorn

Coffee (regular or decaf)

Tea (regular or decaf)

Oatmeal (regular and flavored)

Juice (apple/cranberry, etc.)



Seltzer / V8

Ensure

**We have had such great response for toiletry items. However, due to demand, we are starting to run low on: shampoo/conditioner/deodorant/razors/soap

**We are also starting to run low on toilet paper, and paper towels.

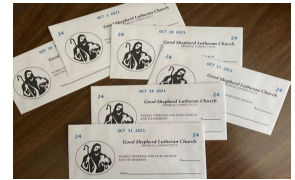


Summerfield -



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!

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, March 20, 2022 - Third Sunday in Lent

Prayer of the Day: Eternal God, your kingdom has broken into our troubled world through the life, death and resurrection of your Son. Help us to hear your word and obey it, and bring your saving love to fruition in our lives, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Isaiah 55:1-9

Psalms 63 1-8 (1)

1 Corinthians 10:1-13

Luke 13:1-9



1 Corinthians 10:1-13

I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, and all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness. Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play." We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come. So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

Luke 13:1-9

At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. He asked them, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did." Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?' He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"