



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

## Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Weekly Update Wednesday, December 1, 2021

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



## Worship Schedule -

**December 5th:** We will have two Worship Services on Sunday, 12/5, 12/12 and 12/19. Feel free to choose from our 8am, or 10:30am service on the dates above. Both services will be held INDOORS. Please bring a mask regardless of your vaccination status, as they will be required for all. Please see our calendar for the holiday schedule. Hymnals are now available for use again. 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.

Also, 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



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

1) Go to the Good Shepherd website [www.gslc-ct.org](http://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!

## A Community Of Prayer -

For those in need of healing and comfort:



*He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.*

*Psalm 147 vs. 3*

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

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.

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

Simply email the church office at [office@gsic-ct.org](mailto:office@gsic-ct.org), or give us a call at 203-268-7596. If you would like a prayer card sent to your loved one, friend or neighbor, please include the full name and address. 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. You can reach him by text, or phone at: 860-595-9560. His email is: [dearynos@gmail.com](mailto:dearynos@gmail.com)



**12/5/21** - 8am and 10:30am indoor Worship Services.

**12/7/21 - The Book Club** will meet again at 2pm to discuss "The Storyteller's Secret" by Sejal Badani. "Whereabouts", by Jhumpa Lahiri is our selection for January.

**12/12/21** - 8am and 10:30am indoor Worship Services.

**12/12/21 - Sunday School and Confirmation Classes** will meet from 9:15am - 10am. We will only convene once this month and will see you again in January.

**12/12/21 - Our Annual Meeting** will take place immediately after the 10:30am service.

**12/19/21** - 8am and 10:30am indoor Worship Services.

**12/24/21 - Christmas Eve** Service at 5:30pm.

**12/26/21 - Worship Schedule Change** - Only one service at 9:30am.



**Choir Meetings** - Each Sunday at \*9:45am. (\* Please note slight time change)

**Shepherd's Flock Quilters** - generally meet at 10am each Monday, Wednesday and Saturday. New members are welcome!

## Member News -



**\* Our Annual Meeting will take place on 12/12/21 immediately following the 10:30am service.**

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## Member Updates -

\* **Vic Noll** reports that his therapy is going well and his knee is regaining some mobility. He wanted to thank everyone for their kind words, prayers and cards. Vic is very appreciative and hopes to be back in Church soon.

\* **Bob Carlson's daughter, Karen,** would like our members to have Bob's address. ( a note, or card this time of year would be much appreciated! ) Bob can be reached at:

**Please call office during business hours for this info, thank you!**





We once again have "Angel Tree" tags for the Salvation Army in the Good Shepherd narthex. They are available starting today, December 1st. Please help by selecting an Angel Tree Tag from the podium near the central doors in the narthex. Then, fill in the info for tag you have taken. Kindly bring your bagged, but unwrapped gifts, with the complete tag attached, to the designated area by the central side door with the sign. (wood table behind baby shower table) Please don't feel that you should include all the possible gifts on your tag--you can be selective. Certainly, any gift included is more than no gift! (in case I have to return tags to the SA.) Sorry for the short notice, but gifts are due back by December 13th at the latest. If you have questions or problems, please call me at 203-257-0375 or 203-261-6576.

Thanks for all you do! - Larry Black

\* Bring gifts UNWRAPPED, but you may include gift wrap in your bag.

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## CALL FOR HELP FROM THE SALVATION ARMY -

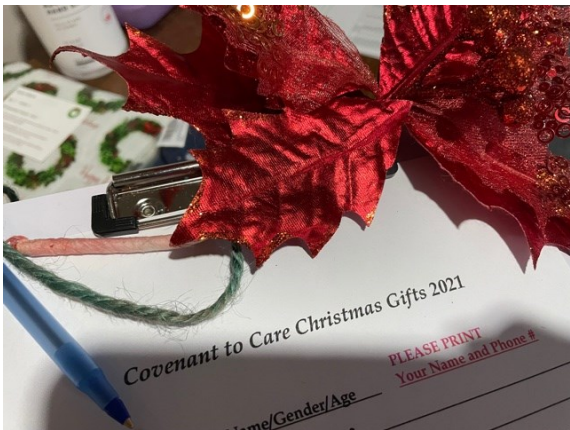
The Salvation Army is looking for volunteers to "ring the red bell". If you can't give financially this time of year, this may be a wonderful way for you to help out! This job entails a volunteer shift at the Trumbull Mall collecting monetary donations for the needy. If interested in more info, or to sign up, please contact Lt. Wonni at 978-935-3095. Thanks!



## COVENANT TO CARE CHRISTMAS GIFTS -

Name tags for Christmas gifts are clipped to a white clipboard on the table in the narthex. Please PRINT your name and phone number on the list next to the child's name, and attach the corresponding gift tag to your wrapped package.

Gifts are due December 19th. Thank you!



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## GSLC IS HOLDING A VIRTUAL BABY SHOWER -

We are having a virtual baby shower for an Afghan family who recently settled in CT. The family is expecting a baby girl on December 27<sup>th</sup>. Since they only have a crib, they are in need of many items to care for the baby. Anyone who would like to provide an item for the "Baby Shower" is welcome to take a card that lists needed items. These cards are on the "baby table" in the corner of the narthex. Please note that not all necessary items have been listed, so if you find a gently used stroller, or other useful item, we would love to add it to the other baby gifts. Feel free to drop items off at the "baby table". For your convenience, there is also a collection box outside the main door of the Church.

All items are due by December 19th. Thanks for your help!



## **QUILTING -**



The Shepherd's Flock Quilters generally meet at 10 a.m. each Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday. We invite everyone to join us!

Please contact Barbara Abraham by phone, or text at: 203-305-0321 if you wish to come on Monday morning. Contact Ellie Noll by phone at: 203-888-7009, or Eileen Holleran at: 203-426-0005, if you wish to come on Wednesday. If you prefer Saturday, please text Donna Duessel at: 203-482-5598.

There is no limit to the number of quilters at this time, but we would like to ensure that someone will definitely be there to work with you. If you can tie a knot, you can do this! A variety of talents can be used; we are happy to show you how to sew tops, tie, trim, and design tops if you wish to join us.

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## **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 out to "Good Shepherd Lutheran Church" with the notation, "Food For Summerfield".



## 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.



### ITEMS NEEDED AT THE MONROE FOOD PANTRY

At the Monroe Food Pantry, we strive to consistently provide healthy food options for our clients. We accept and appreciate all donations, and encourage **low sodium, low sugar, low saturated fat, vegetarian, and whole wheat** selections when possible. This helps our clients manage and prevent chronic diseases, such as diabetes and heart disease.

- bread crumbs
- instant potatoes
- egg noodles
- pasta
- pasta sauce
- macaroni & cheese
- healthy snack items
- hot and cold cereal
- tuna
- canned chicken
- brown/white rice
- pancake mix & syrup
- peanut butter
- jams and jellies
- canned soup
- canned pasta
- salad dressing
- condiments
- baked beans
- refried beans
- broths and stocks
- canned fruit
- canned chili
- canned tomatoes
- canned beans & vegetables
- Ensure
- juice
- hot chocolate
- baking supplies: sugar, flour, brownie and cake mix
- decaf and regular: ground coffee, instant coffee
- decaf and regular: black tea, green tea
- Hamburger Helper, Knorr products, Ramen
- household cleaning supplies
- personal hygiene products
- feminine hygiene products
- frozen vegetables, and fresh produce
- pet food





## Greetings to Calumet Nation!

As we head into the Thanksgiving and Advent Days, we here at Calumet want to invite people to consider a few things:

### 1. Christmas Giving Ideas....

Calumet has created a 2021 "Christmas Giving Ideas" online store. Sweatshirts, tees, ornaments & other gifts — and **Gift Certificates for the one you love** — are available. **To peruse the online options, type this into your browser: [www.calumet.org/giving/gifts2021](http://www.calumet.org/giving/gifts2021)**

### 2. Holden Evening Prayer — Advent 2021

Calumet Nation is invited to participate in Holden Evening Prayer on the Wednesdays of Advent at 7:30 PM. This is a beautiful, 25-Minute service which includes singing, prayers, a reading, and a pastoral reflection. Calumet is partnering with Nativity Lutheran in North Conway NH and Freedom Christian Church in Freedom, NH.

**Learn more by typing this into your browser: [www.calumet.org/advent2021](http://www.calumet.org/advent2021)**

### 3. Calumet Book Club for Advent — “Enrique’s Journey” by Sonia Navarro

The Calumet Book Club is hosting a **DEC 16** book discussion. The book: Pulitzer Prize winner “Enrique’s Journey” by Sonia Navarro. Pour a cup of tea, light a candle, and enjoy the conversation on Zoom. Calumet is thankful to Pastor Jon Hopkins of Concordia Lutheran in Concord, NH for his co-leadership. Here is a brief description of the book:

**"Enrique’s Journey recounts the unforgettable quest of a Honduran boy looking for his mother, eleven years after she is forced to leave her starving family to find work in the United States. Braving unimaginable peril, often clinging to the sides and tops of freight trains, Enrique travels through hostile worlds full of thugs, bandits, and corrupt cops. But he pushes forward, relying on his wit, courage, hope, and the kindness of strangers. As Isabel Allende writes: “This is a twenty-first-century Odyssey. If you are going to read only one nonfiction book this year, it has to be this one.” Now updated with a new Epilogue and Afterword, photos of Enrique and his family, an author interview and more, this is a classic of contemporary America."**

**Learn more by typing this into your browser: [www.calumet.org/calumetbookclub](http://www.calumet.org/calumetbookclub)**

Help us spread the word and invite others who you think would have interest!

Boom Chicka Boom!

Knute Ogren  
[knute@calumet.org](mailto:knute@calumet.org)  
he/him/his

Be good.

**PS.....**

***Calumet is a 501c3, not-for-profit, ministry of the Lutheran Church. Your year-end gift to Calumet can be a big help to our efforts to keep grounded, to keep safe, to keep focused, and to keep Calumet Nation connected to one another. To make a gift, visit [www.calumet.org/give](http://www.calumet.org/give). To make a gift of stock, to gift your RMD from an IRA, or to learn about remembering Calumet in your estate plan, contact [ginger@calumet.org](mailto:ginger@calumet.org). Thanks!***

## FINANCIAL NEWS -

### ANNUAL STEWARDSHIP APPEAL -

All members should have received a 2022 Stewardship Appeal and Pledge Form in the mail. Kindly place your pledge form in an envelope and return it to Church at your earliest convenience. If you still need a form, there are extras on the wood table in the narthex. You can also call Stephanie in the office for assistance. Thank you in advance for helping our mission and ministries thrive!



### 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](http://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!

**\* Our offerings are down significantly. If you are able to donate, any amount would be very helpful and much appreciated!**

## **Sunday, December 5, 2021 Second Sunday of Advent**

Prayer of the Day: Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming give to all the people of the world knowledge of your salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

First Reading: Malachi 3:1-4

Psalm: Baruch 5:1-9 or Luke 1:68-79(78)

Second Reading: Philippians 1:3-11

Gospel: Luke 3:1-6



### **Philippians 1:3-11**

I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

### **Luke 3:1-6**

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'"