

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, August 18, 2021



Additional people needed!

Please consider serving as a Communion Assistant at our Outdoor Worship. In addition, help is needed setting up and putting away materials for the Service.

Thank you to Dave, Mickey, Jeff and Bob for recent Property Committee work, including the new (formerly hockey pucked) window!

Thank you to Riley Immel for serving as Youth Rep on Council this past, very challenging year! Blessings as you start college!

LV

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An update from the Worship and Music Committee:



***FOR THE HEALTH AND SAFETY OF ALL...PLEASE BRING A MASK IN CASE IT RAINS AND/OR WE HAVE INDOOR WORSHIP.**

Due to the current circumstances, we must now revert back to wearing masks indoors during worship. Good Shepherd appreciates your patience and understanding during these challenging times!

There are several options for you to join us for prerecorded 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)

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, Jim, Darcy, Scarlet, Jason, Brian, David, Cate, Cecilio, Donna, Anthony, 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.

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.

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

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@gscl-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 -

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!



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

*** 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 -

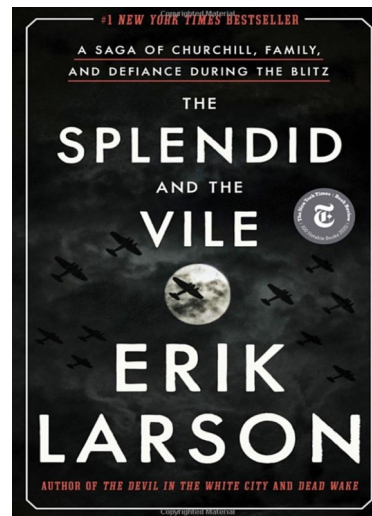
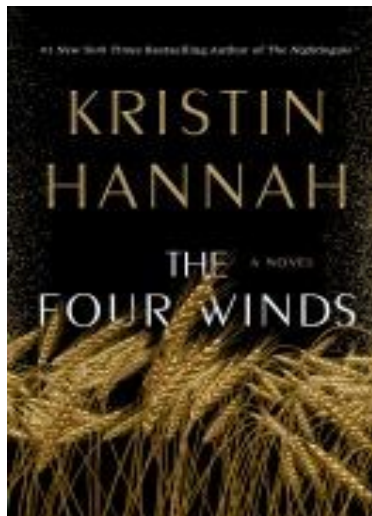
*** THIS SATURDAY!!! - August 21st - Larry and Trudi's Annual Pool Party for the youth of Summerfield Methodist Church from 1pm-4pm.**



Larry Black invites everyone to join him at the pool and he will also provide meats for the grill. All guests are asked to please bring a dish to share. (either salad or dessert.)

Please RSVP and indicate what you plan to bring to Susan Chin: suejchin@hotmail.com or 203-583-0298.

Don't forget your swimsuit and towel!



The Good Shepherd Book Club will meet again on September 7th at 2:00 p.m.

We will discuss "The Four Winds", by Kristin Hannah. Weather permitting, we can meet outdoors, or indoors (with masks) if that is preferable.

We welcome new members and look forward to seeing all of our avid readers on 9/7/21!

On **October 5th at 2:00pm**, we will discuss "The Splendid And The Vile", by Erik Larson.

Shepherd's Flock Quilting Update -



The Shepherd's Flock Quilters generally meet at 10 a.m. each Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday. We invite anyone 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 by phone 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 people 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.

A word of thanks -

Dear Ellie & the quilters,
Thank you so much for the beautiful quilt! You are all so thoughtful and caring and I really appreciate it. You guys work so hard and pour so much love into each and every quilt and should be so proud. You make quite the difference in so many people's lives. Thank you again for my lovely quilt!
Love,
Annemarie

Dear Quilters Flock,

8/3/21

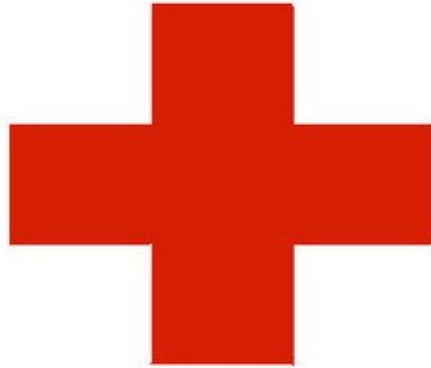
Thank you for the beautiful Purdue-inspired quilt you made me. I especially love the little patch about being wrapped in Jesus' love. I know the quilt will be a lovely reminder of the church.

With love,

Collin Hoffman



Volunteer needed -



**American
Red Cross**

Together, we can save a life

The Good Shepherd will host a Blood Drive in Gibiser Hall on 11/13/21.

We are looking for a volunteer to run this event. This means readying the hall in advance and unlocking the Church for the Red Cross at about 6:45am that morning. The volunteer does not need to stay at the Church during the drive, as the Red Cross brings their staff to run it. The volunteer would need to do a quick building check / light cleanup afterwards and lock up the Church at around 2pm, or 2:30. If interested, please see Donna, or call Stephanie in the office to discuss details.

Fundraiser - Please see below and reach out to Donna Hoffman at: 203-240-1606 if you would like to donate to her fundraiser to benefit Smilow Cancer Hospital and Yale Cancer Center.



SUPPORT ME

On September 11th, I will be participating in the Closer to Free Ride for the third time! I'm participating because I'm determined - determined to deliver support and hope to those who need it most.

100 percent of the dollars I raise for the Closer to Free Ride will directly support patient care and research at Smilow Cancer Hospital and Yale Cancer Center. Smilow is Southern New England's premier cancer hospital and is the only comprehensive cancer facility in the Northeast – bringing together both inpatient and outpatient care in one hospital.

I have set my goal to raise at least \$250 and I hope you'll help me reach (or even exceed) this goal.

Thank you for your support!

I encourage you to visit my personal Closer to Free Ride fundraising web page online.

Warm regards,

Donna

Reaching Out, Serving Others

COVENANT TO CARE - BACKPACKS - THANKS AGAIN!

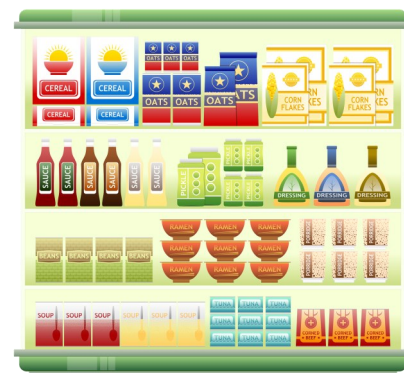
We had 100% fulfillment of the backpacks requested for Covenant to Care school supplies. Thank you for your continuing commitment to these kids. It means a lot to them and their parents and caregivers.



Shepherd's Pantry

The need is great!

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.



- Juice (apple, cranberry, etc)
- Mayonnaise, Mustard, Ketchup
- Canned Vegetables
- Grape Jelly, Strawberry Jam
- Hamburger Helper, Knorr Pasta/Rice Sides, Macaroni & Cheese
- Egg Noodles
- Rice (brown or white)
- Hot & Cold Cereal
- Bread Crumbs
- 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, including baked & refried
- 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 - including feminine hygiene products
- Household cleaning supplies



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



"I call upon you, for you will answer me, O God; incline your ear to me, hear my words" (Psalm 17:6).

Friends,

A devastating 7.2 magnitude earthquake struck southwest Haiti on Saturday morning. Over 1,400 people were killed, and that number is expected to increase as search-and-rescue efforts continue. Blocked roads are delaying the delivery of vital supplies to hospitals, which are overwhelmed with more than 6,900 injured people. At least 26,000 homes were damaged or destroyed, but the full extent of damage is still unknown. Haiti is also suffering through a political crisis and was hit by Tropical Storm Grace on Monday night, which caused severe flooding in communities already damaged by the earthquake.

For over two decades, the ELCA has maintained a presence in southern Haiti through support for agricultural and sustainable development work. To continue our engagement with those communities, Lutheran Disaster Response is collaborating with partner organizations in the communities to meet relief needs, including food, water, medical supplies and temporary shelter. In the future, other areas of support will include psychosocial care, water and sanitation, and creating sustainable livelihoods through agriculture and livestock. We also stand with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Haiti as it assesses damage and impacts on churches and church life.

[Your gifts will support earthquake survivors in Haiti. Gifts to "Haiti Crisis" will be used in full \(100%\) to assist those affected by the earthquake.](#)



Together, as church, we can be there for our neighbors in Haiti.

PLEASE GIVE NOW

In Christ's service,

Daniel Rift

The Rev. Daniel Rift
Director, ELCA World Hunger and Lutheran Disaster Response Fund
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

**Lutheran Disaster Response
P.O. Box 1809
Merrifield, VA 22116-8009**

Write "Haiti Crisis" on your check memo line.

Or, call 800-638-3522 to give by phone.

Sunday, August 22, 2021 Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Prayer of the Day: Holy God, your word feeds your people with life that is eternal. Direct our choices and preserve us in your truth, that, renouncing what is false and evil, we may live in you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

First Reading: Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18

Psalm 34:15-22 (15)

Second Reading: Ephesians 6:10-20

Gospel: John 6:56-69



Ephesians 6:10-20

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

John 6:56-69

Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever." He said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue at Capernaum. When many of his disciples heard it, they said, "This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?" But Jesus, being aware that his disciples were complaining about it, said to them, "Does this offend you? Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. But among you there are some who do not believe." For Jesus knew from the first who were the ones that did not believe, and who was the one that would betray him. And he said, "For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted by the Father." Because of this, many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him. So Jesus asked the twelve, "Do you also wish to go away?" Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God."