

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, June 30, 2021

Happy Fourth of July. Enjoy the weekend and stay safe!

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An update from the Worship and Music Committee:

The Worship and Music Committee continues to monitor Covid-19 conditions and regulations. We are committed to providing a safe and comfortable environment for as many people as possible. To achieve this, we will by necessity be taking a conservative approach as we begin to return to what we once considered normal. While we all long for worship as it used to be, we must remain vigilant for the good of all.

We continue to consider the advice of those in governance, especially at the state level; of those in the scientific community, especially the CDC; and of our partners in the ELCA; local congregations and Bishop Hazelwood. We strive to make our recommendations based on the best and most current information available to us.

In our meeting on June 2, we decided that our summer schedule will once again consist of a single service every Sunday at 9:30, beginning on 6/20. In order to accommodate those who prefer indoor worship and those who prefer outdoor worship, we will be alternating between venues. Please see the schedule below. In the event of inclement weather, including heavy rain or extreme heat, we will worship indoors. Check the Facebook group and watch for email for any changes.

For indoor worship, we will continue to require everyone in attendance to wear a face covering. Even though the state mandate has been lifted, we want to encourage everyone to feel safe in our worship space. As vaccination rates increase and infection rates decline, we will reconsider this policy. We do not make this recommendation lightly, but feel it is still in our collective best interest to maintain the practice for now. Masked individuals may sing softly, and we will begin providing single use worship sheets that include the words to the hymns. Please be reminded that we have a new air handler helping to keep the space well ventilated.

Outdoor worship will continue to be mask-optional with singing allowed. Single-use worship sheets will be provided.

Online Worship will continue. We will continue to tape and post the video online for you to watch at your convenience.

There are several options for you to join us for 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.

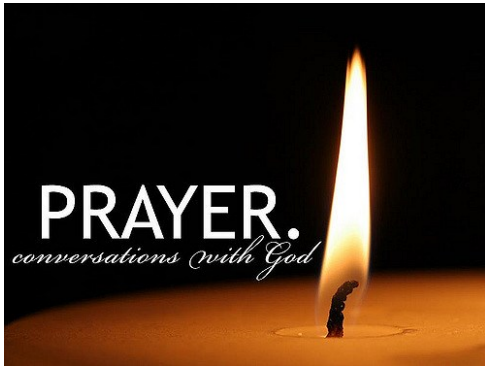
Whichever worship choice works best for you, we are delighted to have you worship with us!

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)

July 4: 9:30 Worship INdoors
July 11: 9:30 Worship OUTdoors
July 18: 9:30 Worship INdoors
July 25: 9:30 Worship OUTdoors
Aug 1: 9:30 Worship INdoors
Aug 8: 9:30 Worship OUTdoors
Aug 15: 9:30 Worship INdoors
Aug 22: 9:30 Worship OUTdoors
Aug 29: 9:30 Worship INdoors
Sept 5: 9:30 Worship OUTdoors



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. Amen.

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, Scarlet, Jason, Brian, David, Tricia, Cate, Cecilio, Donna, Anthony, Steve, 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.

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?

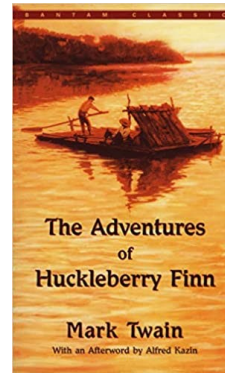
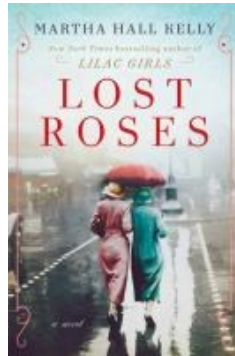
Simply email the church office at office@gsllc-ct.org. If you would like a prayer card sent to your loved one, friend or neighbor, please include the full name and address. Prayer requests may also be made by phone (203-268-7596) and will be included by the church office.

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).

Upcoming Events



The Good Shepherd Book Club is meeting on **July 6th at 2:00 p.m.** when we will discuss "The Lost Roses" by Martha Hall Kelly. In August we will read "Huckleberry Finn" by Mark Twain. We will meet outdoors weather permitting or indoors if it's preferable. We welcome new members!



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 for warmth and comfort to those in need through Lutheran World Relief. The quilts, made throughout the year by many helpful and willing hands, will be blessed at the church in July. 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 Holteran to purchase your tickets @ \$2 for 1 or \$5 for 3 or \$10 for 7. They will also be available at the in person worship services.

Blessing of Quilts will be on **Sunday, July 11th** at the 9:30 a.m. Worship Service.

Quilts for High School Seniors - The Shepherd's Flock Quilters have decided to honor our high school graduates with quilts to remind them that they are always surrounded by God's love. We are going to bless the quilts on Sunday, July 11th. We would love for the high school seniors to come to church between 9 & 9:15 a.m. to pick out a quilt from our stash that we will present to them during the 9:30 church service.

Lutheran World Relief Quilt Ingathering

Good Shepherd is the site of the next Quilt Ingathering in Connecticut. We will be the drop off location for quilts July 13th to July 17th and the following week they will be picked up and on their way to the Lutheran World Relief warehouse in Maryland and then on to people in need here in the United States and worldwide.

We have lots of quilts that have been completed and are ready to be boxed up! Our sincere appreciation and admiration to the Shepherd's Flock Quilters for their faithful dedication to helping those in need!

If you have time during the week of July 13th to 17th and can be at church to let in the drop off groups, please sign up on the bulletin board in the narthex. If you have questions, Barbara Abraham is our LWR Liaison and is happy to help.

Reaching Out, Serving Others:

Shepherd's Pantry



The need is great!

The Monroe Food Pantry provides emergency food assistance for needy individuals and families in Monroe. Their clients receive one week's worth of food per month and they serve more than 100 households per month.

The Social Ministry and Community Outreach Committee invites you to contribute items to the Shepherd's Pantry located in the narthex. You may drop them off on Sunday mornings. The items are delivered to the Monroe Food Pantry once a month.

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 to GSLC with the notation "Food For Summerfield" or place cash in the Summerfield box.

THE GOOD SHEPHERD FOUNDATION

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

www.thegoodshepherdfoundation.org



June 21, 2021

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

Dear Pastor Ryniewicz and the People of Good Shepherd,

And again we get to thank you for your partnership in our medical and water mission to the people of Haiti. We continue to be touched by your faithfulness in caring for those in need as our Lord did. Your continued support of The Good Shepherd Foundation has been invaluable. As you well know, you have enabled us to touch many thousands of lives with medical care that eases the suffering, and indeed saves the lives of men, women and children in Haiti.

Your additional Lenten gift of \$715.00 is amazing and actually provides another half day of life-saving medical clinic. No new info on the water project, except that we know for sure it will happen.

Sadly, the Covid 19 situation in all of Haiti has recently become exacerbated, although as of our last info, our patients do not yet seem severely impacted by it. We continue to monitor it closely and the political situation has not improved at all.

We pray in thanksgiving for your support, and, we continue to need your prayers

With gratitude,

Michele Sidney

Michele Sidney, President

Linda + Bob

The Rev. & Mrs. Robert P. McGurn

*We continue to be so very
grateful for all
that you do!
L+B*

Sunday, July 4, 2021 Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

Prayer of the Day: Ever—living God, you strengthened your apostle Thomas with firm and certain faith in the resurrection of your Son. Grant that we too may confess our faith in Jesus Christ, our Lord, and our God, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

First Reading: Ezekiel 2:1-5

Psalm 123(2)

Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 12:2-10

Gospel: Mark 6:1-13



2 Corinthians 12:2-10

I know a person in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows. And I know that such a person—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows— was caught up into Paradise and heard things that are not to be told, that no mortal is permitted to repeat. On behalf of such a one I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses. But if I wish to boast, I will not be a fool, for I will be speaking the truth. But I refrain from it, so that no one may think better of me than what is seen in me or heard from me, even considering the exceptional character of the revelations. Therefore, to keep me from being too elated, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment me, to keep me from being too elated. Three times I appealed to the Lord about this, that it would leave me, but he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness.” So, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. Therefore I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities for the sake of Christ; for whenever I am weak, then I am strong.

Mark 6:1-13

He left that place and came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him. On the sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astounded. They said, “Where did this man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands! Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?” And they took offense at him. Then Jesus said to them, “Prophets are not without honor, except in their hometown, and among their own kin, and in their own house.” And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them. And he was amazed at their unbelief.

Then he went about among the villages teaching. He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics. He said to them, “Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them.” So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent. They cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.