



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



Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Weekly Update Wednesday, September 7, 2022

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



Remembering Fr Mychal Judge, the Irish-American priest killed in 9/11

May God, the Provider of green pastures and quiet waters, be the peace in our hearts today. May Jesus on mountaintop and dark valley be the hope in our hearts today. May the Spirit of truth and wisdom, comforter and friend, be the strength in our hearts today.

Remembering all those who died on 9/11 and all those who went to help. Remembering Fr. Mychal Judge and all those who gave their lives helping.

We remember you.

**LV,
PD**

*** Please check inside this newsletter for schedule changes that will begin this Sunday, September 11th.**

*** Also, please note that our Financial Secretary, Roy Remlin, has prepared Financial Statements for period through 8/31/22. Thank you, Roy! The statements can now be picked up on the table in the narthex. Please contact the office if you need your statement mailed.**



Worship Information -

*** Next Sunday, September 11th, the "Regular Worship" schedule will start back up. There will be two Worship services every Sunday. Please choose from the 8am, or 10:30am service. Also, please see next newsletter page for the Choir and Sunday School schedules.**

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



9/11/22 - 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** - 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!



A NOTE OF THANKS -

A Note Of Appreciation —

Many thanks for the outpouring of words of comfort and support at this time. I am very grateful to be part of this caring church family.

Helen Nordwall



A faith-based medical mission serving the people of Haiti.



GOOD SHEPHERD FOUNDATION

Dear friends:

The Good Shepherd Foundation has entered an amazing time in our 11-year history. We will soon celebrate the anniversary of the first clinic held on October 1, 2011. We started with a \$1,000 donation from one person. That paid our expenses for the first clinic, and we have managed to continue to hold monthly clinics for the past 11 years. On March 23, 2022, we opened our first daily clinic, and our patient load has doubled in the past 5 months. The daily clinic is a success, and our patients are coming from 15 or more villages and are most grateful for the healthcare they are now receiving on a daily basis.

Please see the most current blog that describes the amazing miracles that have taken place in the past 11 years. If you'd like to jump on board with this most successful, small, grassroots, highly efficient medical mission, with less than 2% overhead, please consider a gift. All info is on our website, accessed below.

Gratefully,

The Good Shepherd Foundation Board

The Miracles for The Good Shepherd Foundation (TGSF) just keep continuing! We are now serving over 150 patients/week at a 5-day weekly clinic with 2 nurses, and an MD on site once/week who is on-call the rest of the time. Read further to see how we got here.

MIRACLE #1: We started in October 2011, in the backyard of Mrs. St. Louis, an 85 yr. old woman, with \$1,000 donated by one donor, and have not yet missed a monthly clinic for lack of funds.

MIRACLE #2: As a home care RN, Michele, our founder, visited a patient named Bruce – a 20-year veteran of building wells and latrines in the Caribbean. Bruce joined our Board and has worked tirelessly as our Treasurer and water expert, whose expertise designed and helped build clean water community wells and latrines.

MIRACLE #3: In April 2019, we moved to an indoor clinic on the first floor of a building built as a community center by ORACHEL, a diaspora group from Chevreau now living in the Northeast US. After completing this building, they invited TGSF to use the first floor as our first indoor clinic.

MIRACLES #4 and #5: We furnished this clinic with electricity and water soon after construction and built a second well and latrine. *PLEASE NOTE: ELECTRICITY & RUNNING WATER IN HAITI ARE ABOUT THE SCARCEST 2 ITEMS AVAILABLE ON ANY GIVEN DAY!*

MIRACLE # 6: Our partner in Haitian ministry & colleague, Jim Smith, a Colorado surgeon, called in November 2021 with a request. He knew a Haitian RN who he has been in contact with for many years who speaks excellent English. He wondered if we could help Oscar with some employment. We hired Oscar to work in our monthly clinic to help organize patient records and send us reports – giving us the needed documentation for many purposes.

MIRACLE #7: a new model of ministry, as of March 16, 2022. Two RNs live at the clinic, 5 days/week, with 4 hours of clinic/day and on-call the rest of the time. An MD is onsite once/week and on call daily. They saw over 500 patients in the first month, the patient census is growing to over 150/week, and the clinical staff members are fully integrated into this community.

MIRACLE #8: Through several generous and anonymous donations in 2022, we have been able to fund this new clinic's startup expenses.

MIRACLE #9: We had gotten news that our clinic needed a physician on site each day the clinic is open. We did not have the funds to make this happen, so we did some extensive investigation. The result was that Oscar and our Founder, Michele, contacted the Haitian Ministry of Health, and were informed that we only need a physician onsite one day/week, and we are currently in complete compliance. We have since been approved and recognized as a community clinic and currently ARE FULLY IN COMPLIANCE! This fear came up & was resolved suddenly just this month!

MIRACLE #10: On June 4, 2022, we were informed that TGSF will be the recipient of a Rotary International Grant for \$80,000 to build a water filtration system, and TGSF will have oversight of this system, an issue Rotary originally informed us would not be acceptable to them. They have recognized our presence in this community as an asset to their work. All these successes are beyond our wildest hopes and have led to a need for increased funding, as we serve more and more people in this highly underserved rural community. Please help us continue this work with a generous donation.

Linda McGurn, VP, The Good Shepherd Foundation



SPIRITUAL FRIENDSHIP

READ Ephesians 5:19-21

WED
SEPT 7
2022

Jesus said, *"Where two or three gather in my name,
there am I with them."*

— Matthew 18:20 (NIV)

In 2009, my friend Michelle and I had the opportunity to attend a Walk to Emmaus spiritual retreat. The experience was filled with community-building, worship, and Bible study. We did not want to lose our excitement about our faith when we returned home, so Michelle and I started to meet once a week. We studied different materials and books over a cup of coffee and breakfast.

Eight years after we began our weekly ritual, Michelle moved across the country. I worried that this would make it difficult to continue our special friendship. I had always interpreted Matthew 18:20 as Jesus asking us to meet in person when we study and worship. But meeting virtually with Michelle has taught me that you do not have to be in the same room for the Lord to be with you. All you have to do is join your hearts and minds together.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY
My faith is strengthened
by the faith of others.

While we can no longer share a meal at the same table, we continue to share details of our lives and encourage each other in our faith journeys by discussing *The Upper Room*, hymns, and books. Our relationship is one that I cherish.

Prayer: Dear Lord, thank you for the gift of spiritual friendships. For those of us with this type of friendship, bless these relationships. For those of us longing for a friend, please put the right people in our life. Amen.

Yvette War Bonnet (Washington, USA)

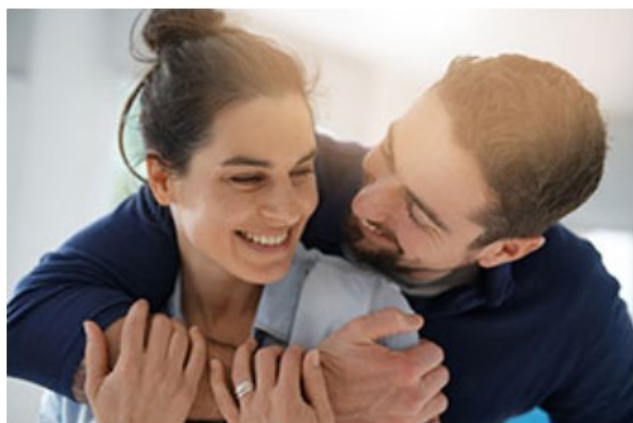
GodLoves
MARRIAGE

strong
marriages
strengthen
churches



Marriage Encounter - Fall 2022

Couples in Your Congregation CAN Have the Relationship They've Always Wanted!



Give married husbands and wives in your congregation the opportunity to learn unique insights and tools that can re-ignite their love by improving their communication skills!

Marriage Encounter is a weekend of learning that can help your congregation's couples reap joyful long-term rewards for their relationship, their family relationships, and their faith journey.

Your Relationship *Deserves* Marriage Encounter! **November 4 - 6, 2022**

Hampton Inn & Suites – Lenox, MA
Apply now at GodLovesMarriage.org!

Questions? Contact Richard & Claudia Steele
Via [Email](#) or Call 860-649-4732

Pre-registration is required to secure your room and meal reservations – don't miss out!

Facility policies regarding COVID-19 will be implemented for everyone's safety. This will therefore be a small group – so register asap!

crsteele@aol.com

or Call 860-649-4732



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

ELCA World Hunger

Working with and through our congregations in the U.S., Lutheran churches around the world, and other partners, [ELCA World Hunger](#) is uniquely positioned to reach communities in need. From health clinics to microloans, community meals to advocacy, your gifts to ELCA World Hunger support sustainable solutions that get at the root causes of hunger and poverty.

ELCA WORLD HUNGER'S
GLOBAL FARM
Challenge



WAYS TO GIVE

Online

ELCA.org/globalfarmchallenge

By mail

ELCA
P.O. Box 1809
Merrifield, VA 22116-8009

By phone

Call 800-638-3522
Monday through Friday,
8 a.m.-5 p.m. Central time.

*Please make checks payable to "ELCA World Hunger"
with "Global Farm Challenge" in the memo line.*

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.

* Monroe Food Pantry September Needs -

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 11, 2022 - Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Prayer of the Day: O God, overflowing with mercy and compassion, you lead back to yourself all those who go astray. Preserve your people in your loving care, that we may reject whatever is contrary to you and may follow all things that sustain our life in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Exodus 32:7-14

Psalms 51:1-10 (1)

1 Timothy 1:12-17

Luke 15:1-10



1 Timothy 1:12-17

I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he judged me faithful and appointed me to his service, even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the foremost. But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience, making me an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life. To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

Luke 15:1-10

Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them." So he told them this parable: "Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.' Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance. "Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.' Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."